

Donconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XV.—NEW SERIES, No. 498.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1855.

[PRICE 6d.]

PATRON: H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

The LECTURES and EXHIBITIONS, as DELIVERED before HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY and HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT, will be CONTINUED during the week, consisting of the TELEPHONIC CONCERT, DISSOLVING VIEWS of SINBAD the SAILOR, DUBOSCQ'S ILLUMINATED CASCADE, the DIORAMA, illustrating the VOYAGE across the ATLANTIC, and the CITIES in the UNITED STATES; and in addition—on THURSDAY EVENING, the 17th, DRAMATIC READING, by Mrs. CHATTERLEY: "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING." LECTURES on SONGS and SONG WRITERS, by GEORGE BOCKLAND, Esq. DISSOLVING VIEWS of the WAR, &c., &c.

A DAM and EVE.—This great original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERU, is now ON VIEW at 57, FLEET-MALL, opposite Marlborough House, from Eleven to Six, daily. Admission, One Shilling.

WANTED, a GOVERNESS (a member of a Christian Church), for the DAY SCHOOL connected with the Congregational Chapel, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. Apply to the Rev. Thomas Maund, Minister of the place.

WANTED, in a Dissenting family, a Respectable YOUNG PERSON as NURSEMAID, and to make herself generally useful. She must be able to write a plain hand. A member of a Christian Church preferred. Apply to W. Rose, 165, Kingsland-road, London.

TO GROCER'S ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a steady, active, efficient YOUNG MAN, as ASSISTANT. Apply to G. Pike, 36, New-street, Birmingham.

TO GROCERS, &c.—A married man, of experience, wants a SITUATION as TRAVELLER, BOOKKEEPER, MANAGER, or PRINCIPAL COUNTERMAN, in Town or Country. Address B. B. B., 64, Charlton-street, Somers-town, London.

GROCERY BUSINESS.—To PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—WANTED, an APPRENTICE to a WHOLESALE and RETAIL TEA-DEALER, GROCER, and TALLOW-CHANDLER, a steady, well-educated YOUTH, with good morals and address. One of the Independent denomination would be preferred. He will be treated as one of the family. A premium expected. Attention to the latter branch of the trade will be optional. Address, Mr. Wells, Market-place, Salisbury, Wilts.

TO IRONMONGERS.—WANTED, by a YOUNG MAN, very respectably connected, a SITUATION as ASSISTANT or CLERK in a WHOLESALE or RETAIL IRONMONGERY ESTABLISHMENT. Unexceptionable references as to character and business qualifications given on application to Alpha, Post-office, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire.

TO DRAPERS.—A YOUNG LADY, who has been several years in the Business, wishes to obtain a SITUATION. Address, A. B., Post-office, Blockley, near Moreton-in-Marsh.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, by a Young Man, a member of a Christian Church, a SITUATION in a Pious Family in the Country. Salary less a consideration than domestic comforts, and Christian privileges. Satisfactory Reference given. Address, W. S., Mr. Gromitt, Timber Market, Wisbeach, Cambs.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED IMMEDIATELY, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT in a respectable FAMILY TRADE. None but persons of integrity and character need apply. An APPRENTICE also WANTED. Application to be made to Mr. John Sharman, Draper, Leighton Buzzard.

A YOUNG LADY, accustomed to teaching the usual branches of an English education, with Music, French, and Flower Painting, is desirous of a MORNING ENGAGEMENT. Address, B. J., Ward and Co., 27, Paternoster-row.

A LADY, of much experience as a Teacher, has TWO or THREE VACANCIES for BOARDERS. Adult, or otherwise. The number is limited; a sound education imparted; and home comforts insured; at the same time that wholesome discipline is affectionately yet firmly enforced. For terms, testimonials, &c., apply to P. H., 51, Lupus-street, St. George's-square, Pimlico, London.

A BOOKSELLER, PRINTER, &c., wishes to meet with a YOUNG MAN of sterling character, competent for the general routine of a Jobbing Office (case and press), who is willing to fill up his time at the retail counter. Apply, with references, to Mr. Henry Pigg, Norwich.

ADVANTAGEOUS INVESTMENT.—Several First-rate HOUSES, well adapted for Shops, with Plate-Glass Fronts, and lofty Rooms, in the highly-respectable neighbourhood of Belgrave, either to LET, or for SALE; also, a few PRIVATE HOUSES. No Agents need apply. For particulars, address C. P., at Mr. Panton's, Post-office, Lupus-street, Pimlico, London.

A MIDDLE-CLASS DAY SCHOOL.—The ADVERTISER, a Member of a Congregational Church, accustomed to Tuition and Village Preaching, wishes to know of an opening for a School of the above description, in, or near, some locality where, occasionally or otherwise, his services would be acceptable. Most satisfactory references.

A. B. care of W. E. Wittingham, Esq., 14, Moorgate-street, London.

CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, MOUNT-STREET, DEVONPORT, TO BE SOLD.—This Chapel has been erected about thirty-nine years; is substantially built; is capable of seating 700 persons; and attached thereto is a good school-room recently erected. The Premises, which have cost over 2,000l., the Trustees are under the necessity of selling, to clear off the existing debt thereon, amounting to 800l. The Chapel has been closed since January last the Congregation being unable to sustain the burden of the debt. If this were removed, the cause might be revived under an able and zealous ministry—the population in the immediate locality being 4,000 or 5,000. The Trustees would be willing to transfer the property for less than the debt on it; and the attention of societies and individuals is earnestly invited to prevent its being employed for secular purposes. Applications addressed to Mr. D. H. Haines, House Agent, Devonport, will receive immediate attention.

FOR SALE.—TWO HOUSES, within three minutes of the New-cross Railway Station. Each house contains Six Rooms, recently furnished in a superior manner. Apply to Mr. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

A GOOD INCOME.—H. J. invites attention to his CIRCULAR, containing information, enabling any person (ladies included), to earn Three Pounds weekly, in nineteen days. Sent, by return, for twelve stamps. Mr. Johnson, 30, North-street, Cambridge-heath, Hackney, London.

KENSINGTON CHAPEL, PHILLIMORE-TERRACE (Rev. J. Stoughton's).

The following Services will be held in connexion with the OPENING of this new place of worship. On WEDNESDAY, May 30, the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY will preach in the Morning, and the Rev. B. W. NOEL, M.A., in the Evening. Services at Twelve and Seven o'clock. On SUNDAY, June 3, the Rev. J. HARRIS, D.D., will preach in the Morning, and the Rev. JOHN STOUGHTON in the Evening. Services at Eleven and Half-past Six. On TUESDAY EVENING, June 5, the Rev. W. BROCK will preach. Services at Seven o'clock. Collections will be made during each Service in aid of the Building Fund. After the Wednesday Morning Service, Refreshment will be provided at Woolthorpe Lodge, near to the Chapel, at Three o'clock. Tickets for Dinner and Tea (Ladies, 3s. 6d.; Gentlemen, 5s.), may be obtained, up to Friday, May 25, at Mr. Trotman's, 2, Newland-terrace, Kensington.

MISSIONS TO THE HEATHEN.

The Committee of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY address themselves in this appeal, with sentiments of sincere Christian affection, and not less of confidence in their expansive and generous sympathies, to all their fellow Christians, without distinction, who pray and labour for the extension of the Gospel among the heathen.

The Society has Missionaries in the East and West Indies, Ceylon, the West Coast of Africa, and France.

In the West Indies, the Churches under the care of the Society's Missionaries number about 3,000 members, exclusive of Jamaica, where the Churches planted by its instrumentality are self-supporting, and contain 35,000 members, but where the Mission still sustains a Theological Institution for training a native ministry. In Africa, the Churches contain about 150 members, in Ceylon nearly 500, and in India about 2,000. These persons, denominated members, are those who, on a personal profession of Christianity, have been admitted to Christian ordinances and the fellowship of the Church. In addition to these, a much larger number of heathen have renounced idolatry; and the Missionaries, in their stated and itinerant labours, preach the Gospel, and circulate the Word of God, among large masses of the population in every district.

At nearly all the stations occupied by the Society, there are day-schools. They number seventy, and contain about 7,000 children in constant attendance.

The Missionaries of the Society, among their incidental labours, have written and published fourteen Grammars and nine Dictionaries, mostly of languages in which no such works previously existed. They have also translated the Word of God, in whole or in part, into nearly all the languages of India, besides those of Isulu and Duala, on the west coast of Africa. Their Bengali version of the Scriptures is chiefly used by all Missionaries in that great province of the Indian Empire.

The Society proposes to extend its Indian Mission by adding twenty new labourers to the band already sustained by them. Eight have already been sent forth. But additional means are required to complete the number, and to fill up vacancies caused by death and removal. Those to be sent will, for the most part, occupy Bengal Proper, where there are no Missionaries of any other Society, and where there are only ten, among a population of nearly twenty millions. For this purpose it will be requisite to increase the annual income of the Society by 5,000l. a year, part of which has been realised; but in order to assist in obtaining the remainder, the Committee make the present appeal.

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., and by the Secretary, at the Mission House, who will gladly supply any further information which may be needed.

By direction of the Committee.

FRED. TRESTRAIL, Secretary.

Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street, London, March, 1855.

* See "Bengal as a Mission Field," by M. Wylie, Esq., and "The Results of Missionary Labour in India," Published by W. H. Dalziel, Cooks-pur-street.

PEACE SOCIETY.

THE THIRTY-NINTH PUBLIC ANNIVERSARY of the PEACE SOCIETY will be held in FINCHBURY CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS, on TUESDAY EVENING, May 22, 1855.

CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq., M.P., is expected to take the Chair at Half-past Six o'clock. Doors open at Six o'clock.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held at the NATIONAL SCOTCH CHURCH, REGENT-SQUARE, on THURSDAY, May 17, 1855.

Sir CULLING E. RANDLEY, Bart., in the Chair. Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel; M. H. Mowat, from Paris; Naville, from Geneva; Girard, from the Façon; Davand, from Brussels; and other gentlemen will address the meeting. Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock. A Collection in aid of the Funds of the Society will be made.

BRITISH and FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at CROSBY-HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on FRIDAY EVENING, May 19, 1855.

The Rev. James Bowery, from Barbice; Francis Burke, Esq., from Montserrat; R. Russell, Esq., from Jamaica; Captain Poliers, from the West Coast of Africa; George Thompson, Esq.; and William Craft (lately a slave in Georgia), with other gentlemen, will, it is expected, take part in the proceedings. The Chair will be taken at Half-past Six o'clock by SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq.

Admission to the Body of the Hall without Tickets. Tickets for the Platform, and for the Reserved Seats, to be had at the Anti-Slavery Office, 27, New Broad-street.

UNIVERSITY of LONDON.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL EXAMINATION for MATRICULATION in this University, will commence on MONDAY, July 3.

The Certificate of age must be transmitted to the Registrar fourteen days before the Examination begins. By order of the Senate, R. W. BOTTMAN, Registrar. Marlborough House, May 10, 1855.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

WEDNESDAY, May 23rd.—A SERMON will be preached in SURREY CHAPEL, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD, by Rev. NEWMAN HALL, B.A. Service to commence at half-past Six.

THURSDAY, May 24th.—A PUBLIC BREAKFAST, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN (under the superintendence of the Ladies' Temperance Committee), will take place punctually at Half-past Eight o'clock, a.m., to be followed by business of an interesting and important character.

On the Evening of the same day, the ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held in EXETER HALL, when the Rev. W. MARSH, D.D., Hon. Canon of Worcester Cathedral, will preside. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six.

Tickets for the Breakfast 2s. each, and for the Public Meeting, free, may be obtained at the Office of the Society, 56, Bishopsgate-street Within; Messrs. W. and F. G. Cash, 5, Bishopsgate-street, Without; Mr. Tweedle, 337, Strand.

ORPHAN WORKING-SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.

PATRON—Her Majesty the QUEEN. For Children of both Sexes, of all Denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

The NEXT ELECTION will occur in NOVEMBER, when TWENTY-FIVE CHILDREN will be ADMITTED. Candidates must be between Seven and Eleven Years of Age, and in good health. Forms to fill up, and all requisite information, on application to the Secretary. The Lists will close on the 1st October, but Papers should be sent in with as little delay as possible. As all the votes are carried forward from one election to another, every case must ultimately succeed if ordinary efforts are used. The new Lists of Governors may be had free of expense on application.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

33, Ludgate-hill, London. Governor's subscriptions, 1l. is. annually; life, 10l. 10s. and upwards. Subscribers, 10s. 6d. annually; life, 5l. 5s. Contributions are earnestly solicited to meet the increased expense of maintaining 266 Orphan Children now under the care of the Charity.

The PUBLIC EXAMINATION of the CHILDREN, and DISTRIBUTION of REWARDS to OLD SCHOLARS, will take place at the SCHOOL, on TUESDAY, May 22nd, to commence at Eleven o'clock precisely, when the Chair will be taken by APSLEY PELLATT, Esq., M.P. Tickets may be obtained at the Office, as above. Governors of the Charity and Ministers are respectfully invited to attend.

LEICESTER.—GENTLEMEN'S SCHOOL.

Mr. FRANKLIN receives PUPILS to Board and Educate, from the age of ten. In addition to Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, which are carefully taught, the course of instruction includes many subjects of useful and general information. The modern languages and the accomplishments are taught by able masters. An eminent Professor attends from London to lecture on Chemistry. Individual and anxious attention is bestowed upon the characters of the Pupils; and their comfort is consulted in all the arrangements of the family. The general terms are Forty Guinea a year.

Reference may be made to the parents of pupils who are now or were formerly in the school; among others, to J. Mellor, Esq., Q.C., Recorder for Leicester; S. Stone, Esq., Town Clerk, Leicester; J. J. Hollings, Esq., Leicester; Rev. Dr. Winslow, Leamington; Rev. T. M. Barker, Spring-hill College, Birmingham, &c.

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE

IS THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR SOLID SILVER.

MANUFACTORY, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), LONDON.

THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, 18 years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DINERS and COVERS, BISH COVERS, EPERGNEs and CANDELABRAS with beautiful figures and classical designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CAKE BASKETS, CANDELISTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TUREENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18 POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every watch can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy and quality:—

	Gold Cases	Silver Cases
Watches of the Horizontal mode, jewelled for hours, main- taining power, 1st size	£ 1 10 0	£ 1 10 0
Do, 2nd size	£ 1 5 0	£ 1 5 0
Do, 3rd size	£ 1 0 0	£ 1 0 0
Patent lever movement, jewelled for hours, main- taining power, 1st size	£ 1 10 0	£ 1 10 0
Do, 2nd size	£ 1 5 0	£ 1 5 0
Do, 3rd size	£ 1 0 0	£ 1 0 0
Watches with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size	£ 1 10 0	£ 1 10 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelve-months' trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains, charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

SARL and SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

PREPARATORY TUITION for YOUNG

GENTLEMEN for the higher Schools of Classical Literature (on the System of Pestalozzi); especially adapted to meet the requirements of Christian parents. Superior locality, residence, and domestic arrangements. Terms, Twenty-four Guineas.

Prospectuses on application to L. S. Messrs. Hatchard Palmer, Booksellers, 55, Gracechurch-street.

HOPE HOUSE ACADEMY,

WOODFORD-GREEN, ESSEX.

The Rev. W. BURNETT continues to receive a Limited Number of YOUNG GENTLEMEN to BOARD and EDUCATE. Woodford is celebrated for its salubrious air, elevated situation, and gravelly soil.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

PLYMOUTH, conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYMOUTH, M.A. (of University College, London), M.R.A.S., &c., assisted by well-qualified and experienced Masters.

The Course of Studies pursued at this Establishment is suitable as preparatory either for a College Course, or for Professional or Commercial Life.

The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

Terms, from 35 to 45 guineas per annum.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES,

King-street, Leicester.—The MISSES MIAL, whose school has been established for many years, continue to receive a limited number of Young Ladies for BOARD and EDUCATION. The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References: Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; W. Sunderland, Esq., Ashton-under-Lyne; Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford; Rev. G. R. Miall, Ullesthorpe; and E. Miall, Esq., M.P., Sydenham-park, London.—Terms and full particulars on application. The ensuing quarter will commence on the 2nd of April.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

THE distinctive features of this Association are—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

The COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOLMASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months; and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.

HENRY RICHARD, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH BARRETT, }

7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

CLERICAL GARMENTS.—A SUIT for

4l. 14s. 6d. of West of England Black Cloth, of great durability, together with general excellence combined with economy, may be met with at the Establishment of Messrs. NICOLL, PALETOT PATENTEES, 114, 116, 118, 120, Regent-street; and 27, Cornhill, London.

EVERLASTING GOLD PENS.

THE sale of several gross during a short period is the best guarantee of the superiority and cheapness of ALFRED PEGLER'S WARRANTED GOLD PENS. Full size, 2s. each; smaller, 2s. 6d.; Silver Cases for ditto, 2s. 6d. each. A great variety of Penholders, with Patent Pencils, in gold and silver, suitable for presents. They will be forwarded free by post to any address, and exchanged if not approved.

Each Pen bears the name of ALFRED PEGLER, 151, HIGH-STREET, Southampton.

GEE'S BEDDING FACTORY and FUR-

NISHING WAREHOUSES, 22, and 23, NEWINGTON-CAUSEWAY, BOROUGH, and HIGH-STREET, KINGSLAND.

W. C. GEE begs to announce that having just completed an extensive enlargement of his Premises, he can now supply superior Furniture at the lowest price. Mahogany Arabian Bedstead, 2l. 18s., Iron Portable Bedstead, well suited for Emigrants, 10s. 6d., Full-size Feather Bed, 1l. 5s., Poultry Feathers, 10d. per lb., Capital Grey Goose, 1s. 2d., 2 ft. 6 in. Marble Top Wash-handstand, 1l. 6s.; 3 ft. 6 in. Mahogany Loo Table, Solid Top, 1l. 6s., and every other article at prices equally low.

CLERGYMEN about to FURNISH should

Immediately apply for our Pamphlet, of which the New Edition, at greatly reduced prices, containing 147 beautifully-executed Drawings, is just published, and will be sent on receipt of six stamps to cover postage. Intending purchasers will at once observe the manifest advantage of selecting all their requirements from our immense Stock of Home-manufactured solid CABINET FURNITURE, CARPETS, FLOOR-CLOTHS, and purified BEDDING. This novel and most valuable Pamphlet shows the cost of every item, also the cost of separate rooms, as well as the entire cost of furnishing every description of house, such as—

A four-roomed cottage, with every necessary, for	£ 24 13 0
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An eight-roomed house, in a superior manner, for	138 2
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With every article admirably illustrated.

Special estimates and designs will be furnished in any part of the Kingdom, free of charge, whenever required.

Every article warranted to be of the soundest material and best workmanship, and all Orders are delivered carriage free, regardless of distance.

COBBETT and CO., Manufacturers and General House Furnishers, Deptford-bridge, London.—Established 1802.

VOTES FOR MIDDLESEX.

LONDON ASSURANCE FREEHOLD

LAND SOCIETY.

SHARES drawn May 14: 38, 64, 220, 78, 76, 247, 55, 103, 77, 53, 228, 19, 60, 22, 214. Rights of choice are on sale daily. Paid up Shares have Immediate Rights. Shares 40l. each, or 6s. per month. The Hammersmith Estate is now being distributed. A Ballot Monthly.

Shares and all information may be had at the Office, 29, Moor-gate-street, Bank.

THOMAS ALFRED BURR, Manager.

J. TURNER & SON, CABINET, CHAIR,

and SOFA MANUFACTURERS, UPHOLSTERERS, and GENERAL FURNISHERS, 42, Great James's-street, Bedford-row, Manufactory, St. John's-road, Hoxton, London.

The Cottage or Mansion completely furnished in the most modern and elegant style at manufacturers' prices. Design and Price Books gratis on application.

COCOA containing, as it does, a farinaceous substance and a bland oil, is a most valuable article of diet. To adapt it, however, to delicate stomachs, it is essential that the farinaceous substance be perfectly incorporated with the oil, so that the one prevents the other from separating. Such union exists in the Cocoa here presented. The delightful flavour, in part dependant on the oil, is fully developed, and the whole preparation made grateful to the weakest digestion.

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In regard to purity, see the Report of his Analytical Sanitary Commission in the *Lancet*, July 8, 1851.

THE IDONEOUS TROUSERS.—An

excellent fitting Garment, unsurpassed for ease, elegance, and comfort in sitting, walking, and ESPECIALLY RIDING. Modern and best materials only employed. First price, One Guinea. Also a large assortment of every style of Garment suitable for the present season, ready for immediate use, or to order at moderate charges. Particulars for self-measurement, &c., sent by post.

HENRY L. MARSHALL, 816 and 517, New Oxford-street, Entrance, corner of Duke-street, leading to the British Museum.

COALS.—Eastern Counties' Railway.—

The following are this day's prices of COALS brought to London by this railway:—From the County of Durham—Stewart's Wall's-end, 26s. per ton. Whitwell or Old Etherley Wall's-end, 24s. per ton. From the Yorkshire and Derbyshire coal fields, best quality:—Silkstone main, double screened, 22s. per ton; Rothwell Haigh, Clay Cross, and Tipton, screened 21s. per ton; Barnsley Softs, screened, 19s. 6d. per ton; hard steam coals, 20s. 6d.; Baker's Hartley's, 19s. per ton. Nuts, 18s.; Small, 12s. These coals will be delivered at the above prices two miles from the Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations. Beyond two and under five miles, 1s. per ton extra. Beyond five miles, 1s. per ton per mile extra. Orders may be addressed to Mr. ALFRED S. PRIOR, Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations. Cash to be paid on or before delivery.

By order, J. B. OWEN, Secretary.

Bishopsgate Station, January, 1855.

SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.

SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, LUDGATE

HILL, Inventors and Sole Manufacturers of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS, at 17s. 6d. Unequalled for Superior Style, Fit, Quality, Perfect Ease, and Gracefulness, so requisite for gentlemanly appearance, and so rarely obtained. The advantage of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS over all others is the systematic self-adjusting principle on which they are constructed. Patterns and Guide to self-measurement sent free.

SAMUEL BROTHERS' stock of OVERCOATS for the PRESENT SEASON is worthy of your inspection, combining the three requisites—quality, style, and moderate price.

Ready-made Clothes equal to bespoke—an advantage not to be obtained at any other establishment.

Dress Coats	21s. to 42s.	Tails	5s. to 50s.
Frock ditto	25s. to 45s.	Poncho	21s. to 42s.
Paletots	21s.	Fancy Vests	5s. to 10s.
Oxonian Coat	16s. to 24s.	Hussey Suits	25s. to 28s.
Albion Over-Coat	21s. to 42s.	The New Circular	
Toga	25s. to 30s.	Coat with Belt	12s. 6d.

A Four-Pound Suit, Samuel Brothers strongly recommend, made from Saxony Cloth, manufactured by an eminent West-of-England House, the wear of which they warrant. Patterns, &c., sent free.

No. 29, LUDGATE HILL.

STRATTON'S ORIGINAL HOMOEOPA-

THIC COCOA is universally admitted to be the best and most wholesome of all drinks. Its smooth, mild, and creamy flavour renders it deliciously agreeable to the palate, and is particularly strengthening to children, the aged, and the infirm. It is an essential article of diet, and easy of digestion; it will not offend the most delicate stomach, nor create acid or bile. It is prepared by us, from twenty years' practical experience, under the homoeopathic direction, and, by means of a powerful steam-engine, we are enabled to produce an impalpable fineness of quality. The rapid increase of the sale of this unique preparation proves that it requires only to be more known to be properly appreciated as a nourishing beverage. Each packet bears the signature of J. W. Stratton and Co., who are acknowledged to be the most extensive manufacturers of the Homoeopathic Cocoa in the kingdom. It may be taken with benefit by even the most bilious, as the essence, or the oil of the Cocoa Nut, are so carefully incorporated with the flour of sago and arrow root, that it may be justly called the best of all drinks.

This article has not escaped spurious imitation, which may be easily detected; if pure, it will be the colour of chocolate, and in small globules. Price 1s. 4d. per lb., in quarter, half, and pound boxes.

A good digestion is the greatest boon the human frame is heir to; it is the foundation of health, and all who would possess it should regularly use Stratton's Homoeopathic Cocoa. Sold by grocers and chemists in nearly every town in the kingdom.

MANUFACTORY, HOMOEOPATHIC COCOA STEAM MILLS, LAMBETH, LONDON.

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The recent unsatisfactory state of our foreign trade, and consequent large failures at home, have enabled us to buy and sell at these present low prices. The process of restoration in our Colonies are long must be rapid, and then prices will rise. Merchants, Householders, &c., &c., will do well to buy at the lowest point, which is now.

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VOL. XV.—NEW SERIES, No. 498.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1855.

[Price 6d.]

CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	
Law and Conscience	377
Church-rate Abolition	377
Our Church-rate Record	377
Religious Intelligence	378
Anniversary Meetings	378
The War	384
The Vienna Protocols	384
Administrative Reform	385
Postscript	385
Notices to Subscribers and	
Correspondents	386
Summary	386
Notes from the House of	
Commons	386
Hair-splitting with the	
Sword	387
The Clique, the Class, and	
the Country	387
The Exemplary Depart-	
ment	388
Court, Personal, & Official	
News	388
Parliamentary Proceedings	389
The Sebastopol Committee	391
Miscellaneous News	392
Books Received	392
Gleanings	392
Births, Marriages, and	
Deaths	393
Money Market and Com-	
mmercial News	393
Bank of England	393
Gazette	393
Markets	393

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

LAW AND CONSCIENCE.

WITHIN an hour or two of the publication of our present Number, and before it will reach the majority of our readers, the fate of Sir William Clay's Bill for the Abolition of Church-rates, will, so far as the House of Commons is concerned, be probably decided. We will not speculate on what that decision will be. Nor can we hope by anything we now write to influence the opinion of the popular branch of the Legislature on the question at issue. But seeing that the latest expressions of sentiment adverse to the bill have been put forth in the House of Lords, and remembering that, in the event of success elsewhere, the bill will have to pass the ordeal of discussion and division in the Chamber of Peers, we deem it not unseasonable to pass under cursory notice the judgment which some of their lordships have somewhat prematurely expressed.

We take first the Bishop of Exeter, the Bobadil of the Church Establishment, the ecclesiastical fire-eater, the prelate militant of our hierarchical embodiment of Christianity. He is most anxious to impress upon the country the cheering truth that Church-rates need not be abolished on the fallacious supposition that they cannot be enforced upon recusant majorities. The Church still possesses the formidable weapon of excommunication, which, translated into secularism, means imprisonment, and it would be possible to wield this weapon against mutinous parishioners individually. We will say nothing of the religious spirit which suggested this idea—nothing of the contrast it exhibits to the temper of One, who, when His disciples would have called down fire from Heaven, rebuked by reminding them that they knew not what spirit they were of. We deal now only with the policy of the suggestion—a policy which would bring law into contempt by employing it to worry the consciences of the loyal, and expose the Gospel to disrepute, by identifying it with a most odious persecution. The sort of crusade recommended by his lordship of Exeter would, no doubt, be sport to him, but it would be death to the Church. Happily, the Bishop is like Giants Pope and Pagan in the "Pilgrim's Progress," who, although able still to frighten timid wayfarers, by a grin of malice, were deprived, by the stiffness of their joints, of the power of harming them.

Leaving the right reverend father to chew the cud of his ill-nature, we pass on to the law lords. Lord Campbell ridiculed the pretence that conscience had aught to do with Church-rates, and the Lord Chancellor concurred with him. We should be sorry to say anything personally disrespectful of these noble interpreters of our statutes, but we have a shrewd suspicion that they are more trustworthy exponents of matters of law than of matters of conscience—they do not seem to discriminate between the separate spheres of each. Conscience is the sensational system, if so we may express it, in regard to matters of right and wrong. To be compelled to do that which seems to be wrong to the person doing it, is a grievance to his conscience, whether it be wrong or not. And in the present instance, it cannot be said that the case is so plain and unmistakable as to leave duty clear to every conscience but the morbidly fanciful and sensitive. At any rate, many very good subjects

profess to be aggrieved—and it is the part of wise statesmanship to abolish that grievance unless good and unanswerable public reasons can be given for retaining it. But let us remind those noble lords that tooth-ache is a real torture, although neither of them may have felt it—and it would become their wisdom just as well to denounce all who suffer from tooth-ache as imposture, on the ground that they have never been troubled with it, as to laugh at pleas of conscience in respect of Church-rates. The Friends annually take the spoiling of their goods to the extent of several thousands sterling in preference to compliance with what they regard as an unauthorised ecclesiastical demand, and not a few other denominations follow their example. Will Lords Cranworth and Campbell dare to call them hypocrites? Or do they mean only that conscience might safely commit itself to the guidance of their Lordships' interpretation of Christianity? The standard recommended may be high in their own view—but of what avail is this unless they can persuade others to look at religious questions through their spectacles?

Lastly comes Lord Grey, who cannot see any injustice in the Church-rate system, now that the Braintree case judgment has ruled that a rate is not valid, but when made by a majority of parishioners. Lord Grey has a reputation for being crotchety, but he is, nevertheless, worth convincing on points upon which he is open to conviction. In matters of mere expediency, where the question involved is not the essential character of the thing done, but only the mode of doing it, majorities may be said to have right over minorities. But no majority can make just that which is, and is generally felt to be, unjust. Let us put an extreme case. A sect might be imagined to spring up in this country, which, following French precedents, should exalt reason as their sole divinity. Would Earl Grey contend that if powerful and influential enough to impose rates for the teaching of their Atheism, they would only commit injustice on the supposition that they were a minority—and that what, in harmony with the principles of equity, they could not do when they were weak, they might do when they became strong? Is justice influenced by numbers? Or, to turn Lord Grey's weapon against himself, will it be consistent with justice to maintain Church rates, after the whole people, by a majority of their representatives in Parliament, have declared in favour of abolition? The doctrine that is good for a parish, is good for the nation. If the justice or injustice of Church-rates may be decided by the poll of a parish, why may not the same effect follow from the decision of the House of Commons? Hence, if Sir W. Clay carries his bill in the Lower House, Lord Grey, on his own showing, is bound to vote for it in the Upper House.

We are not dismayed by these precocious exhibitions of hostility in their Lordships' House. They imply, in the first place, that the bill will pass the Commons. They evince, secondly, that hurry which is one of the surest characteristics of fright. If any of the peers were to suggest a plausible plan, other than that proposed by Sir W. Clay, for settling the question, we should be more disposed to take alarm. But a mere cry of dissent and hostility prematurely expressed leads us to hope that their lordships begin to be sensible that the system must be abolished. They may hold out against it this session—but a fair majority on the second reading of Sir W. Clay's Bill this day, will virtually settle the question, and force Voluntaryism on the Church in spite of herself.

CHURCH-RATE ABOLITION BILL.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY.—From Liverpool (three), Merthyr Tydfil, Codrington, Wick, Nibley, Bristol (three), Mangotsfield, Kirkdale, Norwich (nineteen), Trowse Newton, Sheffield, Woollaston, Wallingford, Staines, Brindle, North Walsham and Bradford, Wilton, Parkhill and other places, Whitecroft, Lydney, Wymond-

ham, Neath (two), Horsham, Tenby, Hastingden, Boldre, Leek (two), Alvington, Burlington Bridge, Gateshead, Llandysall, Boston, Bosham, and Chichester.

THURSDAY.—From Llandililo-gogo, Buntisham cum Earith, Middleton Cheney, Pertan Arwotthal, Falmouth, Saint James, Westminster, Saint Mawes, Craven Chapel, Middlesex, Goswell-road, Works-worth, Bristol (two), Greston, Lampeter, Velfrey, Leicester, Bamford, Newton Burgoland, Ringwood, Thirsk, Southwell, Weston, Ashford, Wincanton (two), Llanllwchaearn, Caerleon, Detonport, South Devon, Congregational Union (chairman), Lewes, Blunham, Stevington, Coventry, Blackburn (two), Dudley, East Retford, Blaenllyn, Melton Mowbray, Colchester, Clapham, Houghton cum Wilton, Gailhampton, Coggeshall, Sharnbrook, Machynlleth, Manchester, Llanrwst, Talybont, Uxbridge, Castle Cary, Royton, Thetford, Desborough, Kings Sutton, Ashford, Earls and White Colnes, Langranog, Hincley, Trosnant, Pontypool, Boxmoor, Aberystwyth, Great Catworth, Torquay, Mortlake, Ponthir, and Haughley.—Petition from Bowden, for such alterations of the law relating to Church-rates as will enable the parishioners to sustain the fabric of their Church and provide the necessary expenses for Divine worship without the necessity of voluntary contributions.

FRIDAY.—From Kidderminster, Ragbrook, Sud-bury, Gamlingay, Upwell, Leeds, Loughborough, Wakefield, Guilden Morden, Stanstead, Wrentham, Weston-super-Mare, Carsale, Penybryn, Bridgnorth, West Cowes, St. Alban's, Dix, Chelmsford, Abernethy, Jabez, Emsworth, Abergwyll, Elin, Plynndrain, Barrington, North and South Shields, Cottenham, Haverhill, Northwick, Llywel, Llanegwad, Hatfield Broad Oak, Walter Belchamp, Newport, Sandy, Betws, Brynmair, Merthyr, Bolton le Moors (six), Bedford (three), Doncaster, High Easter, Waltham-stow, Tyros, Whittlesea, Great Chesterford, Bures, Stockton on Tees, Beccles (chairman), and J. Davies and others.—Petitions for the adoption of such measures as will enforce upon the possessors of property the expenses for the repair of the fabric of the parish church, and the finding of things requisite for the performance of divine worship, from clergy of the deanery of Roding and diocese of Rochester, Beaconsfield, and Chesham (three).

MONDAY.—From Lanwet, Worcester (five), Gravesend, Pontesbury, Southampton, Chairman and Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, Members of the Society of Friends in Great Britain, General body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations in London and Westminster (Chairman), Annual Assembly of Members and Delegates of the Congregational Union of England and Wales (Chairman), Preston, East Parley, Blackfield Common, Bigbury, Nottingham, Banbury, Peterborough, Heywood (four), Sheffield (seven), Rotherham, Aberdare, Lewisham, Hirwaun, Coalville, Mynyddbach, Swansea (two), Llangyfeloch (two), Whitwick, Morriston (two), Alltwen, Ridgmount, County of Glamorgan, Chesterfield (five), Hasland, Brimington, Brampton, Newbold, Bromsgrove, Knottingley, Falmouth, Worcester (Mayor), Sandhurst, Ovendon (Chairman), Halifax (nine), Barkisland, Laver Breton, Wivenhoe, Talybont, Totham, Tolleshbury, Thorpe, Northowram, Leeds, Brightlingsea, Faringdon, Watton, Doncaster, Snailbeach, Neath (two), Stainland, Alburgh, Methodist Society Shrewsbury Circuit, Great Eccleston, Lanchurch, Newtown, Llanarth (two), New Quay (two), Llandefelllog, Staplehurst, Maidstone, Lewes, Taunton, Rochester, Chatham, Brentford, and Penryn.

TOTAL PETITIONS.—To May 9, 728, with 59,288 signatures. Since that date, 289 petitions, making a total of 1,017.

OUR CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

BOSTON.—A petition in favour of Sir William Clay's Bill, adopted at the public meeting held in the Guildhall, Boston, on May 10, furnishes the following facts:—

That your petitioners have, by the legal exercise of their ancient and undoubted rights as ratepayers in vestry, for many years past entirely freed themselves from payment of these imposts; the good effects of which have been experienced in various ways; among which, are the increased degree of harmony and good-will now, and for some time past prevailing among the various religious denominations in this borough, both Churchmen and Dissenters. It is also found that the refusal of Church-rates in Boston has not been found to cause any difficulty in meeting the expenses of conducting public worship in the parish church; but that, on the contrary, these expenses are cheerfully met by subscriptions and collections; and a third Sunday-full-service has since

been introduced. And your petitioners have great satisfaction in stating, that, whereas during the time when Church-rates were levied, extensive repairs and improvements in the fabric, although greatly needed, could not be executed for want of the requisite funds;—since the time when Church-rates ceased to be levied, extraordinary repairs, restorations, and decorations have been effected in this magnificent parish church, at a cost amounting to upwards of ten thousand pounds, which large sum has been raised by voluntary contributions.

COLEFORD.—Mr. J. Herbert, of this town, having refused to pay a Church-rate of 4l. 2s. 11d., the State-Church officials, on Tuesday last, committed the legal robbery of soap and cheese to the value of 12l. 4s. 5d. This is the third excessive seizure Mr. Herbert has sustained within a few years; and in no instance has any balance or surplus been returned, or even an account rendered.

MARKET HARBOUR.—**SEIZURE FOR CHURCH-RATES.**—On Monday, May 7, the churchwardens took from Mr. W. Andrews, solicitor, a number of kettles, saucepans, knives and forks, soap, candlesticks, and baskets, for a Church-rate amounting to 18s. 4d.; from Mr. Wm. Russell, three silver table-spoons, for a rate of 9s. 2d.; and from Mr. T. G. Grundy, draper, two bench-rugs, two carpet bags, and one best leather travelling-bag, for a rate amounting to 1l. 8s. 3d. These goods were sold by public auction on Monday. The event has caused considerable excitement in the town; indeed, the whole proceedings have greatly strengthened the feeling of opposition to such unjust demands.

MIDDLETON CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE.—At a meeting held on the 4th May, a Church-rate of threepence in the pound was proposed and carried by a majority of seven. A poll was then demanded by the Dissenters, which took place on Monday and Wednesday, the result of which was, that, in this small parish, 275 votes were recorded, 145 in favour of the rate, 129 against it, leaving a majority of 17 in favour of the rate. The greatest good-feeling prevailed throughout the affair, but still the contest has led many, both of those in favour of, as well as those against, the rate, to wish more earnestly than ever that Church-rates were abolished. —*Banbury Guardian.*

PARISH OF BEDOCK, CORNWALL.—Fifteen-pence having been demanded, in 1853, for a Church-rate, on a cottage at Ashfield, the occupier refused payment. Two magistrates issued a warrant of distress for the fifteen-pence, adding ten shillings for the churchwardens, as "his reasonable costs and charges." With this warrant, a constable entered the cottage, seized and carried off goods valued at thirty-five shillings; and, after a sale, made up the account—

	£	s.	d.
Rate	0	1	3
Churchwarden's costs	0	10	0
Constable's charges	0	7	6
Total	0	18	9
Goods sold for	0	18	0

Deficiency 0 0 9
Thus, the occupier of the cottage, after sustaining a loss of about thirty-five shillings, was left in debt, impotence, and the gain to the Church just sixpence.

THE WORKINGS OF WILLINGHOOD IN NORTH WALES.—In the year 1835, there was a debt of 18,000l. standing upon the Chapels of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists in the county of Carnarvon, North Wales. From that time to the present year (1855), the additional sum of 30,000l. has been expended by the same denomination in erecting and repairing chapels in the same county; yet, at the present moment, there is only 8,000l. remaining unpaid upon all the chapels of the Calvinistic Methodists in the county; so that in the course of the last twenty years, a sum of not less than 50,000l. has been collected in this mountainous, barren country for the purpose of building and repairing chapels for the above denomination alone; the greater part of which has been contributed by the working-classes, and all from the free will of the people, without rate or compulsion. —*Rev. J. Jones, Talarn, in a speech delivered at Capel Cech, at the foot of Snowdon.*

Religious Intelligence.

YORK-ROAD CHAPEL, LAMBERTH.—The Rev. Robert Robinson, of Union Chapel, Luton, after much anxious deliberation, has accepted the urgent invitation of the Church, the congregation, and the Sabbath-school teachers, to become the minister of the above place, and purposes entering on his pastoral labours on the third Sabbath in the present month.

COGESHALL, ESSEX.—The Rev. Bryan Dale, B.A., of Western College, Plymouth, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Independent Church in this place, rendered vacant by the death of the Rev. John Kay.

PAIGTON, DEVONSHIRE.—The Rev. J. S. Knight, late of Bourne, Lincolnshire, who was pastor of the Independent Church, Weldore, for two years, and resigned in consequence of ill-health, has accepted a unanimous call to the Congregational Church at Paigton, and recently entered upon his work with encouraging prospects.

The price of wheat in England during the first quarter of the present year has been more than 50 per cent. higher than it was in the quarter of 1853 that ended on the 31st March, but 9s. 7d. per quarter lower than it was in the beginning of 1854. Beef is 25 per cent. dearer than it was in 1853, and 7 per cent. dearer than it was in 1854. Mutton has been cheaper than it was in 1853, and so have been potatoes.

Anniversary Meetings.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

The twenty-fifth meeting of the annual assembly of the Congregational Union of England and Wales was held yesterday week morning, at New Broad-street Chapel, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. HALLEY, of Manchester. The attendance was larger than on any former occasion. After devotional exercises,

The CHAIRMAN delivered the usual introductory address. In default of a more specific subject, the twenty-fifth annual meeting invited him to a retrospect. Something like a quarter of a century had made its various impressions upon the Congregational Union; and he should like to interpret them by the aid of personal recollection, as they might be suggestive of thought to those who knew the Union only in its present harmony and strength. If they had not completed, they had at least commenced, their twenty-fifth year. An important part of life—to some of them the best part of ministerial life—had surely and for ever passed away. If, in their recollection, the intervening years seemed to have fled rapidly, yet they appeared, in the traces and impressions they had left, to have gone very slowly; for, in passing by them, they had done a great deal of work. Brief to memory, they were long in their influence, and multiplied in their many impressions. In such a retrospect, the inquiry naturally arose, What good had been done by this Congregational Union? He was very far from saying that the Union had accomplished all the good which was foretold and fondly expected by some of its more zealous founders. But, if some expected more good than has been accomplished, others foresaw (if they could foresee what was not coming to pass) very serious evils certainly about to arise; from the forming into an organised and compact body the several parts and particles of Congregationalism. He that day confidently asked where were the evils which were at one time so positively foretold? In judging of the tendencies of an institution to produce evils which had never appeared, the experience of a quarter of a century was not to be ignored as a thing of no consideration. But to say that the Union had done no harm might be thought a poor defence of an institution which cost so much of the time, anxiety, and heart of its founders and early friends. Be it so. They had something more to say. Were there nothing else to be told than the good and pleasant thing of dwelling together in unity,—the encouraging and strengthening of one another in the goodly fellowship of those gatherings, both in the Metropolis and the provinces,—the better knowledge they gained of one another, the kindlier feelings they cherished, and the opportunities of mutual consultation,—these more than compensated the time and trouble by which they were secured; and in the loss of them he was sure the whole denomination would be sensible of a grievous misfortune. To him it seemed of great importance to give demonstration to the whole world, that they had a deliberative assembly in which they decided (where the decision had not a particle of authority over any man on earth) with as much solicitude and carefulness as if they could enforce their decision with all the authority of a synod, a conference, or an episcopal convocation. It was something to be able to pronounce a judgment which would be respected where it could not be enforced, and be received as valuable advice, where as authority it would be utterly worthless. They had also become less straitened and restricted in their opinions of ecclesiastical government. Their Church order was not stereotyped. Every separate Church, holding the like precious faith once delivered to the saints, acted in its diversity of administration with less regard to the general practice of the denomination. The variety was pleasing. With respect to their theology, he could not but rejoice in the great steadiness with which their Churches had retained all the evangelical doctrines of the Puritan theology. But they had not yet attained that perfection of belief which would admit of no advance, or be subject to no declension. A change of principle he confidently denied—a modification of form he readily admitted—for time, the great innovator, spares nothing that is human even in theology. In their theology, as compared with that which prevailed in the recollection of their elderly ministers, there was less of the systematic, the logical, and the metaphysical. The change might not be very great, but they were a great deal the better for it. They felt more freedom, and were using their freedom to good purpose. Their faith in the spirit and in the letter of Scripture was just where it was, as rooted and grounded as ever. A few years since, it was not well understood that Divine truths might be firmly believed without their being able to connect them together in a mutually-dependent and well-compacted system. Doctrines were then deemed to be of great importance, if they only served as convenient ligatures to bind together the several limbs of the theological skeleton. They did not say that any truths could be really inconsistent with one another; but they did say, that the connecting principle might not be discovered by the intellectual power of man; or, if it be discovered by human sagacity, the discovery was not to be armed with the authority of a Divine revelation. Their Calvinism, for instance, had laid aside many of the peculiarities it learned in New England—its stern and repulsive aspect—its lofty and unpopular bearing—its hard phraseology, borrowed from Locke and Hartley, rather than from Paul and John. They had it essentially the same, but a more powerful instrument of popular address, and far better adapted to the practical character of the present time. Too evident it undoubtedly was, that changes seldom stayed at the right point. If it were said, Have not some of our younger brethren renounced important doctrines

which were very dear to our fathers, and which ought ever to be regarded as the life of our Churches?—he did not believe it. Some of their young ministers might have adopted a phraseology less puritanic, of less technical, than that prevalent among their elders. They might insist more upon a religious life growing spontaneously out of a faith within, instead of following their predecessors and expounding the articles of a creed, painfully deduced in systematic order from appropriate texts and acknowledged principles. Let them not distrust these young brethren. They had their own work to do for their own age, and they must not do it as if they had been born in the eighteenth century. The reverend doctor concluded with a quotation from the Principal of University Hall, describing as one of the most remarkable religious phenomena of the time the strength and organisation of Independency.

The Rev. Dr. RAFFLES, of Liverpool, moved that the thanks of the meeting be presented to the Rev. Dr. Halley for his address, accompanied by a request that he would place it at the disposal of the committee. The Rev. Dr. BROWN, of Cheltenham, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Rev. F. Monod, of Paris; the Rev. — Durant, of Brussels; together with the Rev. Mr. Dudas, pastor of the Hungarian Church in Constantinople, were then introduced by the secretary.

The SECRETARY then read the report of the Union, which stated that the various matters of business referred to the committee at the last annual meeting, has been attended to. In reference to political and ecclesiastical matters, the Oxford University Bill of last session, and the Cambridge Bill of this session, were adverted to. The fraternal relations of the Union with the newly-formed Congregational Union of America was touched upon, and it was stated that from returns published there are 2,449 churches in the different States, consisting of 207,608 members; the clear increase of which, during the year, was 2,788. The protest uttered by the last annual assembly respecting the extension of slavery into Nebraska and Kansas, had been transmitted to America, and was cordially responded to. The first Congregational Church had been planted in Kansas, and the multiplication of such communities would make the existence of slavery difficult, if not impracticable, in that new territory. The Union was represented by the Rev. G. Palmer Davies at the Kirchentag held at Frankfurt last autumn, and at the meeting of the Scottish Congregational Union by the Rev. J. Parsons, of York. The committee had ventured to protest against proclamations issued from the throne, ordering the observance of national humiliations on pain of "the wrath and indignation of Almighty God," and respectfully entreated the Government to take immediate measures to prevent the recurrence of language which offends the consciences of many loyal and patriotic citizens, and is not in harmony with the enlightened and progressive character of the age. They had been in correspondence with members of the Government, and with independent members of the House of Commons, on the proposition to amend and consolidate the laws of Mortmain; to alter the law of marriage as it bore unfavourably on Nonconformists, and to obtain the total abolition of the vexatious exaction of Church-rates. The circulation of the magazines of the Union, the *Christian Witness*, and *Christian Penny Magazine* had not increased but declined, a circumstance easily accounted for by the war, &c. The profits, notwithstanding, had been 513l. 17s. 8d. These, as all were aware, were distributed to aged and infirm ministers. During the past year, in this way, they had distributed the sum of 347l. to forty-three aged or infirm ministers, making a total from the commencement of 486 grants, and the large sum, in the whole, of 4,631l. 14s.

The Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN moved the adoption of the report, remarking generally on the general principles of Congregationalism. The Rev. Dr. MONROE seconded the resolution, which, after some discussion, was unanimously agreed to.

The Rev. J. B. BROWN then rose and moved a resolution, which was in effect, that some means should in future be taken to secure more brotherly action amongst the members of the Union; that reporters and strangers be in future excluded from the second day's sittings of the Union; and that it be remitted to the committee, who shall report on it at the autumnal meeting in September next. Dr. GORDON having seconded the motion, it was agreed to.

The Rev. GEORGE SMITH read a report on the proposed new hymn-book. It stated, that the report of the sub-committee, which was cordially approved by the committee of the Union, had been extensively circulated throughout the denomination, with a request, that the persons to whom it was sent would kindly favour the committee with an opinion on the design of having one comprehensive book, rather than the employing of Dr. Watts' Psalms and Hymns, with an Appendix or Supplement, such as the existing Congregational Hymn-book. To this circular, 500 answers had been received. Of these, 12 had no opinion to offer; 23 doubted the propriety of it; 21 disapproved; 23 thought some one existing book might be purchased, or made the basis of the proposed work; while 413 cordially approved of the design. A resolution was afterwards passed, authorising the committee to take measures for the accomplishment of this object. A resolution was also adopted recommending the committee to take into their consideration the propriety of compiling a new tune-book, suitable to the Psalms and Hymns used in Congregational worship.

On the motion of the Rev. P. THOMPSON, seconded by W. WILLS, Esq., it was resolved that the autumnal meeting of the Union should be held this year in London; and it was subsequently determined that the

Rev. John Stoughton be elected chairman for the ensuing year.

The Rev. GEORGE SMITH, in a very laudatory speech, moved the following resolution:—

That the cordial thanks of this Assembly are hereby presented to the Rev. Dr. Campbell for his efficient services as editor of the *Christian Witness* and *Christian's Penny Magazine*, whereby he has placed our Churches under continual obligations; and this assembly would earnestly indulge the hope that he will be long spared to edit these our denominational periodicals.

The resolution was seconded by the Rev. JOHN HALL, and carried unanimously.

Prayers were offered up by the Rev. J. GWYNNE, of Manchester, and the meeting adjourned to Radley's Hotel, where a large company having partaken of dinner, the business was resumed.

On Friday, the second session of the Union was held, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Halley.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. SPICER, in an explanatory speech, seconded by B. HANBURY, Esq., and carried unanimously:—

That in consequence of the resolution adopted at the Annual meeting held at Sunderland, Oct. 1854, to discontinue the practice of insuring deferred annuities, and thereby rendering the funding of any future profits of the magazines unnecessary, the following alterations be made in the rules respecting the appropriation and distribution of the Annuity Fund: "1. That the funded property of the society being sufficient for the payment of the deferred annuities already secured, the regulations respecting the said annuities be regarded as obsolete for the future. 2. That, as by resolution passed at the said meeting in Sunderland, power was given to assist ministers who have been members of the Union five years, in urgent need by unforeseen and sudden calamity, the Committee of Distributors be summoned specially to consider all such cases, and make such grants as by them may be deemed expedient."

B. HANBURY, Esq., having seconded the Resolution, it was carried unanimously.

The SECRETARY introduced to the Union the Rev. F. Tomkins, of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick.

The Rev. THOMAS JAMES then read a paper on British missions, the substance of which is contained in the reports of the three societies amalgamated under that designation. A resolution urgently recommending increased support to these societies was moved by the Rev. R. DALE, of Birmingham, seconded by the Rev. T. BIRNEY and supported by the Rev. Dr. Massie, and Thos Thompson, Esq.

The Rev. JOSHUA VINEY read a brief summary of facts relative to the Congregational Board of Education. During the past year, thirty-four pupils have been received into the Institution at Homerton. Twenty-seven having completed their course of training, have been appointed to schools. The examination of the students has given satisfaction, and has proved that they have diligently availed themselves of the opportunities furnished. The number of children in attendance on the model and practising schools is 600,—their school fees having realised, during the past year, 323*l*. 11*s*. independently of 72*l*. 13*s*. paid by them for books, making a total of 395*l*. 4*s*. 6*d*. From the reports furnished by 111 teachers, it appears that the number of children under daily instruction in schools connected with the Board is 7,000; the average attendance in schools under female teachers being sixty-eight, and under male teachers, seventy-five. Aid has been rendered during the year to the committees of thirteen schools in destitute localities, and several applications are under consideration. It was suggested that such an educational machinery as that conducted by the Board is worthy of vigorous and general support. There were many ways in which this might be given. In all the churches and schools were pious youths of both sexes who might, after training, become valuable teachers. These should be sought out, advised, aided; and thus many might be secured to the training institution. Arrangements for an occasional lecture, sermon, or collection, moreover, would cost little and secure much. The great desideratum, however, was a deeper sense of responsibility and more real interest in the work.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., read the balance-sheet of the Board from, which it appeared that the income for the year was 1,765*l*. 17*s*. 2*d*., and that there is now in the Treasurer's hands 22*l*. 19*s*. 9*d*. Last year there was in hand a balance 214*l*., and that the amount should have been less this year, Mr. Morley attributed to the general depression which exists as the direct result of the war; and he urged very strongly upon his ministerial brethren to endeavour to check rather than to stimulate the war spirit, which prevails throughout the country, and acts as a blight upon everything that tends to elevate and bless the people.

The Rev. JOHN KELLY moved a resolution strongly recommending the appeal of the Board for increased help, to the attention of Congregational Churches, which was seconded by CHARLES REED, Esq., and unanimously adopted.

A petition in support of Sir W. Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill was agreed upon, and resolutions passed in favour of the English Chapel Building Society—which has made grants to the amount of 7,795*l*. in aid of chapels which will cost 19,600*l*. in their erection—and of the Pastors' Insurance Aid Society.—The Rev. E. CONDER moved a resolution, recommending the adoption of a more explicit declaration of faith, which was subsequently withdrawn.—The Rev. JAMES PARSONS gave some particulars of his recent visit to the Scottish Congregational Union meeting at Dundee.—The Rev. JOHN PYER moved, and the Rev. S. S. ENGLAND seconded, the adoption of a petition in relation to the Marriage-law, which was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. BROWN moved a resolution on the Cambridge University Bill, setting forth the regret which the assembly felt that a measure less liberal than that adopted last year for the regulation of Oxford University should have been introduced by a professedly liberal Government in relation to Cambridge, which, hitherto, Nonconformists had regarded as the most liberal University of the two. The resolution

was unanimously adopted; and after prayer by the Rev. S. McALL, the assembly adjourned to Radley's Hotel to dinner.—After sundry speeches, votes of thanks to the chairman and others concluded the business of the session.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Thursday, in Exeter Hall; the Earl of SHERBURN in the chair. The hall was much crowded. On the platform, amongst other friends of the society, there were the following gentlemen: Mr. Milligan, M.P.; Mr. Hadfield, M.P.; Mr. Crossley, M.P.; Mr. Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Baxter, M.P.; Mr. M. Wylie, one of the Judges of Calcutta; Messrs. East, Eus. Smith, Swaine, Newton, Spencer, Wilson, W. D. Wills, W. C. Wells, and I. Perry; the Rev. Drs. Burder, Campbell, Morison, Raffles, Macfarlane; the Rev. Messrs. Adkins, Parsons, Allon, Stoughton, Harrison, Alexander, Gamble, and Viney.

The Rev. T. ADKINS (of Southampton) having opened the meeting with prayer, and a hymn having been sung,

The CHAIRMAN said—Ladies and Gentlemen, the anniversary of this great society, though last in the order of time, is, I think, well entitled to the benefit of the proverb, "Though last, not least," and considering its venerable character, the great results which it has produced, and the noble and pious men who have been its agents from its foundation, I think we may safely reckon it among the very first, and most heartily thank Almighty God, who has blessed in such a manner this age and this nation. Be assured, my friends, that amid all the difficulties and dangers that beset and will beset this kingdom—difficulties and dangers which are so great that nothing but superhuman assistance can extricate us from our perils—religious societies, religious efforts, and religious people, few though these last may be in comparison with the many millions of a different character who inhabit these islands, depend upon it that these will be the sheet-anchor of the vessel in the day of tempest, or rather, they will be as it were a blessed breeze sent by the Almighty God to carry the ship of Great Britain into the haven of everlasting rest. (Applause.) I confess I am overwhelmed when I think of the gigantic efforts of heart and mind made by those great and noble men, whom, under God's blessing, your society has produced for its vast operations; and when I consider that they, along with their brethren engaged in the kindred work of the Bible Society, have toiled to give written languages to so many nations of the earth, that they have reduced so many wild and uncouth jargons to the rules of syntax and grammar, and by the invention of written characters, have supplied the means of diffusing the written Word of God, for many generations, over the length and breadth of countries which they may never be able to tread, I confess I am astonished at their mighty efforts and success; I believe that had they employed these talents in secular literature they would have been extolled above the mightiest of the earth; but, because they have been employed in what to human minds appears the humble task of evangelising the heathen, they are but little mentioned among the great and the courtly, and they do not find their niche in the Pantheon of literature. (Hear, hear.) But we may apply to them what was said by old Fuller of some of the unknown martyrs of this country: "Never mind," he said, "we may have lost their names, but God's books are better than man's martyrology, and the time will come when their light shall burn brightly after every other candle has been put out." (Applause.) Now, it has often been said that home necessities must be supplied, before we look abroad for the heathen. It has even been asserted that those who give themselves to the work of evangelising distant nations utterly neglect the wants of their own people at home. That I most emphatically deny. (Applause.) I maintain that those in whose hearts burns most brightly the lamp which they wish to shine in the uttermost parts of the earth, are the most zealous and the most determined to extend, under God's blessing, the brightness of that lamp to every human being more immediately within reach. (Hear, hear.) When it is said that home wants must be supplied before any effort is made to call in the heathen, if what is meant is that the Gospel must first be offered to those who are near home, and those who are our kith and kin, and are living in our immediate neighbourhood, I entirely concur in the remark. But then, I ask, is not this the case? Is it not the fact that by far the largest portion of all the religious efforts of this country are directed nearest to the people of this country? (Hear, hear.) To begin with the Church of England, is it not so in the case of that Church, with her clergy and with her churches, with her endowments and with her various societies? Is it not so also in the case of the Nonconformist body, with their ministers, with their chapels, with all the varied efforts which they are making for the spread of Evangelical religion? Compare the home expenditure for religious purposes with the foreign expenditure, and will you not find that out of ten efforts made for the propagation of religion, nine are made within the compass of these islands? (Hear, hear.) I admit that the first efforts should be made for the people of our own lands, but not to the exclusion of others. And I must say, that the assertion to which I have referred evinces, in some respects, ignorance of the real principles of Christianity. Christianity is essentially catholic. It teaches us that whatever distinctions there may be upon earth of geographical limits and of language, we are all the citizens of one country, all the children of one common Father—(applause)—and that, although as a man must look to his own immediate family before he looks abroad, so must we look to our

people, and offer them the Gospel of truth, before we traverse the seas in order to convey it to those who have heard it not, yet here come in the words of our blessed Lord, "These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the others undone." (Applause.) Now, I cannot but think that in the efforts that we are making to send the Gospel to these remote, degraded, and feeble races, there is somewhat of a higher and more simple exhibition of Gospel truth, one less likely to be affected, actually or apparently, by anything in which it might be said that we could find our account. God forbid that I should wish the rule to which I have referred to be departed from—the rule that nine-tenths of our efforts should be for the benefit of the people of our own land. Nevertheless, I must say that there is not the same simplicity of action, and the same total disregard of the results to ourselves, in the case of efforts on behalf of our country that is manifested in the case of efforts on behalf of foreign lands. We do spread the light of education, we do spread the light of the Gospel, we do endeavour to bring thousands and millions within the fold of the Church in this country; and we find our reward. (Hear, hear.) We find our position safer in consequence. We find that we have better workmen, that we obtain a larger amount of produce from industrial occupations, and that our whole position is improved, God's reward is bestowed upon all our efforts to improve our country, and we bless Him that we are enabled to see the fruits. But, in the other case, what have those of you who contribute to the work beyond the conviction that you have aided with the blessing of God, in advancing God's Kingdom on the earth? What do your contributions derive from the work except the satisfaction of having acted as your representative in this great matter, and in having brought their own efforts, their own hearts, and their own prayers to bear conjointly with yours in advancing the mighty consummation? And what do the missionaries themselves derive from it? How often does it happen that any of the missionaries derive benefit in the shape of the world's goods or the world's praise? (Hear, hear.) How often do they stand upon this platform to receive the incense of praise which, year by year, is allotted to many of your labourers in your different stations? They have nothing but the conviction that they are labouring in their Master's service; they have nothing but the contemplation of the fruits that arise immediately under their own eyes; and you and they and all of us look to this great result, that we are by God's blessing making a feast to the blind and to the halt and to the lame, knowing and rejoicing, let me add, that in this world at least they can make us no compensation. (Loud applause.)

The Report was then read by Dr. TIDMAN, who was received with considerable applause. The first detailed were of an encouraging nature. The ordinary income of the society, it appeared, exceeded that of last year by nearly 500*l*. The number and amount of sacramental offerings to the widows and orphans, and for the support of aged and disabled missionaries, also showed a considerable increase. A reference was made to the death of the Rev. Mr. Patterson, one of the society's missionaries, and of the Rev. Charles Leach, who was drowned while bathing on the coast of Travancore, China, it stated, now opened her cities and villages to the missionary, and India, of which the Legislature confidently affirmed that all efforts to detach the Hindoo from the gods of his country would prove dangerous and Utopian, was still secure, and yet in that stronghold of idolatry there were more than 330 missionary churches, more than 18,000 believers in communion, and more than 112,000 of the people turned from dumb idols to serve the living God. In Polynesia, South Africa, and China, the missionaries of this society were honoured to plant the Christian standard and to invite the help of their other brethren. Pastoral and itinerant labours, although indispensable, world, it was hoped, be eventually rendered unnecessary by the introduction of a native ministry. The vastness of the field made the necessity for the establishment of some such agency self-evident. One of the missionaries writes, that his district included 1,200,000 souls, among whom he was the only European missionary; and another describing a tour he had lately made, said that in eight districts of Bengal, containing six millions of inhabitants, or three times the population of Scotland, there was not a single missionary. The Report then glanced at the operations of the society in various parts of the world. In China the Bible had been translated by Dr. Medhurst and two other gentlemen into the Manchu, the pure and standard language of the empire; and a large portion of the million New Testaments destined for that country had been circulated. In the South Seas the Gospel had been proclaimed to the very murderers of Williams, and had been carried to a group of islands of which Commodore Wilkes stated that the inhabitants were the most wild and savage that he met with in all the islands of the Pacific. Very gratifying communications had been received, showing the improvement in the general character of mission Churches, and a proof of the interest they took in the work might be gathered from the fact, that the aggregate of their contributions during the past year was 12,500*l*, or more than one-fifth of the entire income of the society. The Rev. W. Ellis's special mission to Madagascar had not been productive of such satisfactory results as were sanguinely anticipated. The number of native Christians it was impossible with any certainty to calculate, as they were still legally proscribed; and it would be dangerous even to make public their assemblies and their time for worship, as there were white men, calling themselves Christians, who did not fail to gather up every scrap they could of the records of Protestant missions, and send them to the Government, i

order to stimulate their watchfulness and malignant opposition to the native Christians; but it would be satisfactory to the assembly to be reassured, that in spite of fines, imprisonment, slavery, and death, princes, warriors, and multitudes of the people were serving the Lord. The Report next referred to the travels of the Rev. Robert Moffat, who had gone to visit by invitation the most formidable chief in South Africa, and of the Rev. David Livingstone, who had explored a country situated very far in the interior, where he found the natives considerably advanced in the arts and enjoyments of social life, and was received with kindness and hospitality. The directors had endeavoured to procure ten additional missionaries for China, but had not yet been successful. Two, however, would leave for Shanghai during the present month, and it was hoped that their number would soon be increased. After a reference to the present unsettled state of the Chinese empire, as rendering missionary operations there somewhat difficult, the report concluded with a powerful appeal to the society's supporters in behalf of the missionary cause.

The Rev. E. PROUT read the cash statement. The contributions from Great Britain and Ireland were 45,319*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*, legacies 1,920*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, contributions raised at the missionary stations 12,424*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*—total, 59,663*l.* 10*s.* The first item included 1,231*l.* 11*s.* for the enlargement of the Chinese mission and the Chinese New Testament. The aggregate expenditure for the year was 64,678*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* The society is about 13,000*l.* in debt.

Dr. TIDMAN handed to the Earl of Shaftesbury two copies of commentaries on the Scriptures; one in Chinese, translated and partly composed by a native of Hong-Kong, under the superintendence of Dr. Medhurst, and the other in Rarotongan, by the Rev. W. Gill, partly a translation of Barnes, and partly an original composition. Dr. Tidman remarked, that although as President of the Bible Society, which very properly circulated the Scriptures without note and comment, the works would be inadmissible, yet, as a friend of missions, he trusted his lordship would receive them.

His LORDSHIP said he received them with the greatest gratitude, and with devout prayer to Almighty God that they might be only the beginning of a long series of blessed works for the evangelisation of mankind.

The Rev. HENRY ALLON moved—

That the Report, of which an abstract has been presented, be approved and adopted, and that it be forthwith printed and circulated by the directors. That this meeting records its humble and adoring sense of the Divine mercy, which has crowned the varied labours of our missionaries with abundant success; and in prayerful dependence upon God for the fulfilment of His Word, and the outpouring of His Spirit, this meeting hereby renews its pledge of devotion to the interests of the society and the cause of Christian missions.

He said the members of the society ought to be truly thankful to God for a man so able to conduct the foreign operations of the society, and so qualified to report them, as Dr. Tidman. He should, however, have left his valuable services to be felt rather than described, had it not been for the terrible ordeal of reckless aspersions through which he had recently so triumphantly passed; but, under those circumstances, he could not refrain from asking for him the congratulations and continued confidence of the assembly. (Applause.) No stone hit so hard as that which was taken from our own house; and this was the peculiar bitterness of the trial through which Dr. Tidman had passed. No one could doubt that he had not been altogether unscathed; his watchful days and sleepless nights could not but have had an effect upon him; but it would be a melancholy thing if the wretched calumny should furnish an excuse for the withdrawal of any man's confidence and help from missionary operations. (Applause.) The missionary cause had been more damaged from the failings of its friends than from the assaults of its enemies; but if he wanted an additional proof of the divinity, indestructibility, and power of Christianity, he would get it from the fact, that notwithstanding the feebleness, faint-heartedness, and even faithlessness of its advocates, it had already achieved so much. He considered that the directors were not warranted, in the present aspect of the country, in keeping up the present expenditure, while the debt remained upon them, and that an immediate appeal should be made to the Churches for its liquidation.

Mr. THOMAS BAXTER, M.P., seconded the resolution. He said it afforded him very great pleasure to speak in behalf of a society so catholic in its nature, so admirably managed, and so successful in its operations as the London Missionary Society. It was no easy matter to conduct the affairs of a body so constructed in such a manner as to preserve perfect harmony amongst the subscribers, and at the same time to keep up the efficiency of the mission. As a Scottish subscriber, he stood there to bear his humble testimony to the confidence which the friends in the north felt in the officers of the institution, and especially to congratulate the meeting on being able to command the services of so excellent and honest a man of business as Dr. Arthur Tidman. (Applause.) Whilst it was the duty of the subscribers to keep a close and strict watch over the executive, to see that their wishes and desires were carried out with energy and discrimination, it was no less their duty to stand by that executive when calumniously assailed, and manfully to support them in the vigorous discharge of their functions, and steadfastly to resist that unreasonable fault-finding, or, if he might be allowed the expression, grievance-mongering which, he regretted to say, was now becoming too common, especially in the churches of the Congregational denomination. (Loud applause.) It had injured many a good cause, and done no good to any one but the infidel and the scoffer. He rejoiced that the time was passed, never to return, when men denied the duty and the policy

of sending the heralds of Christianity to the uttermost ends of the earth. The problem had now been solved; and even our statesmen had seen enough to induce some of them rather reluctantly to admit, that the preacher of righteousness was the best agent of civilisation. (Applause.)

Mr. PROUT, in announcing some subscriptions which had been received in the course of the morning, mentioned the fact that an anonymous friend of the society put last night into the plate, at the Tabernacle, a 500*l.* note, which would be applied to the liquidation of the society's debt.

Mr. M'LEOD WYLIE (from Calcutta), supported the resolution. He said, he could not give such an encouraging view of missionary operations in India, as was presented by some. He did not wish to speak disparagingly of the London Missionary Society's labours in that country. Much good had been done there; but it was high time that the Church of Christ should understand how little had been done in comparison with what there remained to do. There were districts in India containing populations of fifteen, ten, and five millions each, with no missionary. It might be said that these were not strictly British possessions; but in Bengal the London Missionary Society had only two missions, at Calcutta and Berampore, for fifty millions of inhabitants; and other districts were in an equally lamentable condition, which no one could fully comprehend but those who had visited them. He was not, he repeated, speaking disparagingly of the London Missionary Society; for if asked what Mission he knew to be constituted and to work the best, he should reply the Mission of the London Missionary Society at Calcutta. It was what the society was not doing that he complained of—not what it was doing. He must say that he felt the work of Missions was not properly understood in this country. That wretched system of giving a guinea annually, whether rich or poor, must be given up; instead of throwing mere guineas, men must throw their hearts into the cause; and then, and not till then, would some adequate provision be made for India.

The Rev. Wm. LANDELLS moved—

That while the meeting is gratified to learn that the ordinary income of the society has been sustained by the liberality of its friends during the past year—a year of great commercial depression—it is nevertheless painfully affected to know, that its entire resources have for several successive years proved inadequate to its expenditure, and that during the last two years a debt has accumulated to the amount of 13,000*l.* The meeting hereby assures the directors of its willingness to co-operate with them for the removal of this burden, and earnestly hopes that the system of district agency which they are about to commence may, by promoting the organisation of missionary associations, permanently augment the society's annual resources, and thus enable the directors not only to maintain, but greatly extend, its missionary labours.

He said that he supposed it was on account of his being somewhat connected with Sir Morton Peto, whose absence he regretted, that he had been asked to move the present resolution; and as finances were rather out of his (Mr. Landell's) line, he would leave them to the gentlemen who were to follow. The speaker then entered into an argument on the tendency of home missions to beget a desire for foreign labour, and pronounced a high eulogium upon the martyrs in the missionary cause.

The Rev. W. ARTHUR, in seconding the resolution, while acknowledging that considerable progress had been made in the extension of Protestant Christianity during the last few centuries, described in a striking manner the destitute condition of India, in regard to missionary operations, and urged the necessity for greatly increased exertions on the part of the friends of Missions.

The Rev. W. CLARKSON, Missionary from India briefly moved—

That Sir Culling Eardley Eardley, Bart., be the Treasurer; that the Rev. Dr. Tidman be the Foreign Secretary; and the Rev. Ebenezer Prout be the Home Secretary for the ensuing year. That the directors who are eligible be reappointed, and that the gentlemen whose names have been transmitted by their respective auxiliaries, and approved by the aggregate meeting of delegates, be chosen to fill up the places of those who retire; and that the directors have power to fill up any vacancies that may occur.

The Rev. Dr. MACFARLANE seconded the resolution, referring to a remark made by Dr. Raffles, in his sermon at Surrey Chapel, that if in the evening of the world there was found much of the work of the day to do, we must blame for it a slumbering Church. That remark had made a powerful impression on his mind. It seemed to him as if the preacher had spoken of a dead life, or a cold heat, or a hard softness, so contradictory did the phrase "slumbering Church" appear. God grant that they might be shaken out of their slumber into action and energy! Let them trust in the power of God, and not lean upon an arm of flesh; let them realise the power of love, and be awake to the power of "littles," which were often productive of the greatest results.

The CHAIRMAN said Sir Culling Eardley was unavoidably absent, to his great sorrow, as he sincerely wished to be present at the anniversary.

A vote of thanks was then moved by Mr. BARNES, M.P., and seconded by Mr. CROSSLEY, M.P., which the Chairman briefly acknowledged, and the proceedings ended with the Doxology and Benediction.

Mr. PROUT announced that the contributions towards paying the debt already amounted to 1,800*l.*

SOLDIERS' FRIEND AND ARMY SCRIPTURE-READERS' SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening last, at Exeter Hall, the chair being taken by the Right Hon. Lord ROBERT GROSVEENOR, M.P. The attendance was numerous, and amongst those on the platform we noticed Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Colonel Anderson, Major Papillon, Captain Lindsay, Captain Fishbourne, R.N., Mr. A. Pellatt, M.P., the Revs. Dr. Marsh, W. T. Marsh, C. D. Bell, G. A. Rogers, F. Chalmers, W. Leask, W. Dickenson, &c. A hymn having been sung, the Rev. W. Dickenson offered up prayer,

The CHAIRMAN said they were met on an interesting occasion, for the inauguration of a new society of Christian beneficence, embracing an object hitherto unattained. Ever since the war broke out, the society's funds had greatly increased; so that while last year it had only four agents, it now had twenty agents at home and seven abroad; and while then it was 20*l.* in debt, it had now 2,600*l.* in its bankers' hands. (Applause.) Great credit was due to the committee for its exertions; and he trusted that increased success would attend their future labours.

Mr. W. A. BLAKE, the Secretary, then read the Report, which mentioned the various stations at which the society's agents were located, and contained extracts from letters of the missionaries describing the results of their labours among the soldiers. 225,000 appropriate tracts had been circulated amongst the military at home and abroad. The society had five agents at Constantinople and Scutari, two at Balaklava, two at Malta, and one would shortly proceed to Smyrna. 23,000 cards of prayer, with tracts, were distributed to the sailors on board the Baltic fleet, prior to its departure last month.

Mr. ARSLEY PELLATT, M.P., said that the operations of the society could not but excite the greatest interest in the minds of those who desired to promote the welfare of British soldiers. War was a bad school of morality for soldiers, and hence the greater need for Christian exertion at such a period to enable them to resist their temptations, and to communicate to them that spiritual instruction which should prepare them for eternity. Religion was the best school for discipline; but when the hour of danger arrived, and true courage was required, then it was that the power of the religious principle was most clearly manifested.

The Rev. C. D. BELL, Incumbent of St. John's, Hampstead, seconded the resolution. He thanked God that British hearts had not been backward to recognise the claims of English soldiers. Royalty, nobility, gentry, the middle and the lower classes had nobly contributed to the Patriotic Fund; and should the temporal welfare of soldiers be so much cared for and their spiritual interests be overlooked? They had proved themselves Englishmen indeed, and our very patriotism should induce us to do all in our power to promote their best interests and their trust welfare. Cromwell relied most on his Ironsides, and Nelson on his "Methodists;" and in our own day we could have no better soldiers and sailors than those who, having been converted and pardoned, had no fear of death, who, if they perished on the field of battle, would at once join the armies of the skies. (Applause.)

Viscount EBRINGTON, in supporting the resolution, expressed the interest which he felt in the efforts of the society; which, he said, he more readily aided because they were not limited by any sectarian considerations, which so often impeded the labours of Christian benevolence. (Hear, hear.) It would be a disgrace to this country to send out for its soldiers the meat that perisheth, unaccompanied by those who were enabled to distribute amongst them the bread of life. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. MARSH moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting, fully aware of the great importance of religion in the British army, rejoices to hear the success which has attended the efforts of this society in our various military depots at home; and desires to express most devoutly, their gratitude to Almighty God for vouchsafing His blessings on the labours of their agents. And as the Government are about to establish a number of encampments in various parts of the country, this meeting considers this contemplated movement to present an additional plea for augmenting the number of Scripture-readers at home.

Which was supported by the Rev. W. TILSON MARSH, Incumbent of St. James's, Ryde.

The Rev. Mr. STALLYBRASS, visitor of the Russian prisoners of war at Plymouth, said it was now fourteen years ago since he was expelled from Russia, after having laboured there for twenty-four years, in the distant regions of Siberia—(hear, hear)—and he did regard it as a peculiar providence that his knowledge of the language, which had been lying without use for so many years, was now being brought into requisition. (Hear, hear.) The original object of this society was to provide Christian instruction for our own countrymen exclusively; but in the good providence of God an opportunity was now opened for extending its usefulness, by communicating to the soldiers of Russia also the glorious and soul-saving truths of the religion of Jesus Christ. He had much satisfaction in being able to state that a large edition of the New Testament, and of the publications of the Prayer-Book and Homily Society, translated into the Russian tongue, had been carried through the press; and he had had the satisfaction of distributing some hundreds of copies amongst the Russian prisoners at Plymouth. (Hear, hear.) Those men when at home had been accustomed to a liturgical form of worship, and they preferred it; and Nonconformist though he was, he felt no hesitation in introducing to them the scriptural and evangelical prayers of the Prayer-book and Homily Society, in the place of their own prayers to the Virgin and dead saints. (Cheers.) It was one thing, however, to distribute books and another to get them read; and he was glad therefore to be able to state that the books had been read as well as received by these Russian prisoners. He had gone incog. through the rooms in which these men assembled, on several occasions, and had observed them diligently employed in reading the publications with which he had supplied them; and he had learned also from the warders that they were made good use of. (Hear, hear.) It also appeared that a marked improvement had taken place in the conduct of many of the prisoners since they had been supplied with the works to which he alluded, and he had had the most gratifying proofs that his visits to the men were highly appreciated. (Hear, hear.) When he

left Plymouth, for instance, a note was put into his hand, signed by two non-commissioned officers, which translated, would be in substance this: "Most gracious Sir, sympathiser with us in our sorrows and sufferings, we hope that you will not leave us destitute, nor fail to comply with our present request which is that on your next visit you will bring to each one of us a copy of the New Testament and the Psalms." (Hear.) He knew something of the heart of a Russian from his long residence amongst them; and he could readily believe that they feel deeply their obligations to the Christian people of England, in not leaving them destitute of religious consolations under their present painful experience. Some of the prisoners had expressed themselves very decidedly upon this subject, and could hardly understand how it was that the Christian people of England should put themselves to such trouble and expense as to send a missionary and books to them under the circumstances in which they are placed; and they had said, "We shall ever remember your kindness. There is only one thing we want, and that is home; in all other respects we have everything we could desire, and more than we could have expected." And they had further added that they feel very grateful to the British Government and the British public. (Hear, hear.) Now, for himself, he might say that he had great faith in the reproducing power of good seed, the incorruptible seed of the Word of God. (Hear.) The late Emperor Alexander was resolved that the people should have the Scriptures in the vernacular tongue; and caused certain portions of them to be translated into the Russ. But from the time that Nicholas ascended the throne not a single copy of the Scriptures in the modern Russ was permitted to be circulated. Therefore, these prisoners were being supplied with that which they could not have obtained in their own country; and if we believed the Bible to be a casket of imperishable good, which will, by the blessing of God, produce fruit unto eternal life, what might we not expect would be the blessed effect of these Scriptures upon the minds of these men? And who could tell but that they in their turn would be the instrument, in the hands of the Spirit, of producing an influence for good on the minds of others of their fellow-countrymen after their return to their native land. (Hear.)

The Rev. WILLIAM LEASK moved:—

That whilst this meeting deplores the continuance of the war in the East, it beholds in that distressing event an additional reason for the most prompt and zealous measures to be adopted for the augmentation of agents abroad, in order to meet the urgent spiritual wants of our soldiers, whether on the tented field, in the garrison, or hospital; whilst at the same time it joyfully acknowledges, with devout gratitude to God, the many manifestations of success which have attended the arduous and self-denying efforts of those who are labouring at the various foreign stations connected with this society.

The Rev. G. A. ROGERS, Incumbent of Regent's-square Episcopal Church, in seconding the resolution, said, he did not for a moment doubt that Russians have a heart, and he rejoiced in the evidence which had been supplied that night by Mr. Stallybrass, that they had a key by which they could unlock that heart. (Hear, hear.) He did not think it well to look upon the present war as an unmitigated evil, because they might confidently anticipate that He who makes the wrath of man to praise Him, would order it well for His own glory and the welfare of the world.

JOSEPH PAYNE, Esq., supported the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Mr. J. O. FELLOWS, one of the agents of the society from the seat of war, next addressed the meeting, and testified to the readiness with which soldiers both in camp and hospital received the Testaments and tracts which he had had to distribute, and the oral instructions of the agents of the society. His services had never once been rejected; but always accepted with gratitude, and he had reason to know that much good had been the result of the missionaries' efforts. The speaker concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the chair.

The Rev. WM. DICKENSON seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and the proceedings closed with the Doxology.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Religious Tract Society was held on Friday evening week, in Exeter Hall, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY presiding. The meeting was unusually large, the great room being quite full.

The Rev. W. W. CHAMPNEYS opened the proceedings with prayer.

The CHAIRMAN then rose, and said they were met to celebrate the Fifty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Religious Tract Society, and he must confess that he did see in the fact the finger of an Almighty Providence which ordained the institution of such a society, and so that it should reach its development and manhood about the period at which its energies would be most required by the exigencies of mankind. The mere statement of the fact, that since the formation of this society it had circulated the enormous number of 673,000,000 of tracts and publications was a most cogent argument in favour of its continued support, because it was proof sufficient that a mighty work was being carried on by its means. Such a society, valuable as it had been in the past, he considered to be pre-eminently necessary for the present times, to resist the great flood of evil writing and speaking now so prevalent. And it was desirable that the committee should not merely provide for the spread of the truth among the lower orders of the people, but also direct its attention to the great Universities of these realms, whence, even from professors' chairs, books were being issued that would be a disgrace to Holywell-street. If the professor from his chair should dare to say that "no sane man can now believe the

Mosaic account of the creation of the world," he trusted that the committee, to meet this daring affirmation, would put forth some of its simple, plain, and unanswerable tracts. There was still another consideration of very great importance. We were about to enter upon a very great experiment in the establishment of a vast number of penny papers. It seemed probable that the issues of the penny press would shortly be ten times as numerous as now. Whether this would turn to good or evil, God only knew; but most assuredly it would turn to evil if the efforts of a society such as this were not directed to counteract the mischief which there was every reason to fear would arise. He did hope, therefore, that this society would be directed to the great exigency near at hand, and that it would see in what way best to turn to account this penny press for the highest and most sacred interests of the nation.

The Rev. P. J. SAFFERY read the report. It gave a brief sketch of the society's operations during the year, in the printing and circulation of religious publications in various parts of the world—as France, Germany, India, Burmah, China, Polynesia, Madagascar, Australia, and other distant lands. In noticing the home proceedings, a tribute of affectionate respect was paid to the society's late invaluable corresponding secretary, Mr. Jones; also the losses sustained by other deaths were referred to; likewise the efforts on behalf of those engaged in the present war, and for emigrants, colportage, city and country missions, the formation of libraries in schools and destitute districts, &c. On the ordinary receipts of the year, the benevolent income had attained an increase of 928*l.*; the legacies received amounted to 6,098*l.* The grants of money, paper, and publications to India, the British colonies, and foreign countries, together with the gratuitous issues for Great Britain and Ireland, amount to 10,187*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, being an excess over the ordinary receipts of 3,219*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* The sales for the year reached the sum of 67,101*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, being an increase of 3,700*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* The total receipts amounted to 86,200*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*, being an increase of 2,787*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* The number of publications circulated in the year was 28,292,194, showing an increase of 915,619, and making the entire issue of the society in 112 languages and dialects, including the issues of foreign and affiliated societies sustained or nourished by the parent institution, about 673,000,000. The report concluded by commending the society to the sympathy, prayers, and liberality of the Christian public.

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL then moved the adoption of the report, and the appointment of the committee. After paying an affectionate tribute to the memory of the late secretary of the society, he proceeded to speak of the illustration of unity which the Tract Society furnishes, and the prominent exhibition which it makes of Christ crucified as the foundation of that union. He conceived, that, among all religious parties, there existed far too great a disposition to exaggerate their minor differences; but this society went forth in all its publications with the simple title—Christian. He conceived, too, that this society had done much to meet the pressing want, so often referred to of late years, of books on general subjects, written in a religious spirit.

The Hon. ARTHUR KINNAIRD, M.P., seconded the resolution, in order to bear his testimony to the value of this society. It was interesting and gratifying to observe how it adapts itself to every possible want of the day. If you needed a library for any particular class—servants, soldiers, sailors, emigrants, or any other—you might obtain it at the depot of the Tract Society. He had himself, during the year, been aided largely by the society in sending out books to the Armenian Mission in Turkey and Armenia, and also to Scutari, Constantinople, and other places in the East; and he could speak, therefore, from personal experience. (Hear, hear.) The society had his most warm and cordial support.

The Rev. W. GILL supported the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

The Rev. Dr. BAYLEE, Principal of St. Andrew's College, Birkenhead, proposed, and THOMAS BARNES, Esq., M.P., seconded the next resolution, expressive of gratitude to God for the blessings which had followed the various operations of the society.

The Rev. F. MONOD then moved a resolution, recognising the hand of God in the momentous events now taking place. Referring to France, he said: "The providential circumstances through which we have passed and are passing have tended much to the circulation of our tracts. I allude to the cholera, the war, and the military camps. It is by tens of thousands that our tracts have been circulated among the soldiers; and they have led the way for an extensive diffusion of Bibles and New Testaments, as well as to the establishment of libraries for the soldiers. There is now a reading library in each of the four military camps, which, as you are aware, have been formed in France. A barrack has been assigned for the library, and a Protestant soldier has to watch over the books. Our colporteurs, too, have been permitted to go into the barrack in the evening and read to the soldiers; and this has led to four or five evangelists preaching in each of the four camps. The complaint was made on one occasion to the General, that Roman Catholic soldiers listened to the preaching of these Protestant ministers; but he replied, I must permit the Protestant soldiers to hear the preaching of their ministers, and if the Catholic soldiers will go to hear also, I cannot help it. There is one other curious fact connected with this subject, and it is this, that the Tract Society and the Evangelical Society in France are in partnership in this work with the Emperor. He was consulted on this matter of the library; and he said it was a good thing, and he would take part in it, and he did so by sending some military books to be added to our

religious library. Thus, I repeat, we are partners with the Emperor in the work." (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. B. OWEN seconded the resolution, which passed unanimously.

The usual vote of thanks was then proposed, and the proceedings terminated with the Doxology.

IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Irish Evangelical Society was held, on Monday evening last, at Finsbury Chapel; EDWARD BALL, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The proceedings commenced with a devotional service; the Rev. George ROSE offering prayer.

The CHAIRMAN said that the society always appeared to him to be a compendium of our other associations. Those who went forth to Ireland, went not to perform any one individual duty, but their work was a work of joint benevolence and duty. They went forth to represent the Sunday-school Societies; they went forth to take the part of the missionary; they went forth to advocate the diffusion of the Bible; and wherever they went, they took the great elements of the Christian religion, and advocated the great principles and doctrines of their Divine Master; and to place before the unfortunate and unhappy people that light and revelation which was calculated to give them civil liberty, but which was more calculated to give them that liberty which would free them from the bondage of Satan. Afflicted as Ireland had been,—deep as her sufferings, and sorrowful as her position—yet she was now in a state which seemed to give good reason to believe that God was raising her from her desolation; and he trusted she would daily become more willing to receive that gospel which the agents of their society went to promote.

The Rev. Dr. MASSIE then submitted a statement, from which it appeared that during the year, twenty-four agents, as ministers, Scripture-readers, and school teachers, had been diligently labouring in the counties of Antrim, Armagh, Cork, Down, Galway, Kerry, Limerick, Londonderry, Mayo, and Tyrone. The receipts for the year had been 1,998*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*, and its disbursements 1,837*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, besides upwards of 650*l.* raised and expended in self-support at the stations. The operations of the society, during the year, had been characterised by progress and wise assiduity. The same faithful preaching of the Gospel as the principal stations, and in surrounding villages; the same diligent use of the Sacred Volume, and the diffusion of scriptural truth by means of tracts and cottage visitation; and the same kind and vigilant nurture of the young in Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, have been sustained; and the fruits of righteousness had, in numerous instances, gladdened the hearts of the devoted labourers. Priestly influence and Papal superstitions continued to obstruct the progress of Evangelical operations more or less openly; but organised persecution, or systematic and controversial opposition, had not interposed, so as to divert the agents from their proper work.—The Report also made reference to the Home and Colonial Missionary Societies; and detailed at length the operations of the society in Ireland.

The Rev. JOHN BURNET moved the adoption of the Report. After referring to the relation of Ireland to England in the past, he enlarged on the advantages of Protestantism to Ireland; and concluded by urging on his audience the duty of labouring for posterity.

EDWARD SWAIN, Esq., seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. GEORGE SMITH submitted a resolution to the effect that Ireland presented continued claims on the compassion of Evangelical Christians, and that it was as much as ever the duty of the friends of Ireland to diffuse Scripture truth among her people; that the experience acquired by past years, and the social and political changes of the present time, gave encouragement for renewed activity, and the faithful administration of Divine ordinances.

The Rev. SAMUEL M'ALL seconded the resolution.

The Rev. Dr. FLETCHER moved, and the Rev. GEORGE ROSE seconded, a resolution expressive of sympathy with the missionaries, and urging on all Christians union in earnest prayer, that God would pour out the influences of the Holy Spirit to enrich their hearts, and accompany their ministrations among the people.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman, and the meeting terminated with the benediction.

COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, the annual meeting of the above society was held in the Poultry Chapel, under the presidency of J. CHEETHAM, Esq., M.P.

The Rev. THOMAS JAMES read the Report, of which the following is an abstract:—The committee are thankful to be able to report, that during the past year the Churches in British North America continue to enjoy undisturbed harmony, and many of them have been favoured with signal manifestations of the Divine presence and blessing. Numerous additions have been made to the Churches, and the preaching of the Word has been attended with unusual power. The mission to the Indians of Culpoy's Bay is still successfully conducted by the Rev. Ludwick Kribs. Six native evangelists are employed in communicating spiritual instruction to their brethren, under the superintendence of Mr. Kribs. Of the Theological Institution at Toronto, no detailed account can be given, as the usual report has not yet come to hand. The committee can, however, assure their friends that it is still successfully pursuing its course. The committee have much pleasure in stating, that the amalgamation of the Canadian Congregational Missionary Society with the Colonial Missionary Society, announced in last year's Report, has worked satisfactorily. The contributions of the churches have

attended these of former years, and have been more than sufficient to meet the additional charges on this society, occasioned by the adoption of these stations which had been previously aided by the local organisation. Passing from Canada to New Brunswick, the committee have to report, that the Rev. C. Mackay is still labouring with acceptance and success at St. John's. Of the neighbouring colony of Nova Scotia, they regret it is not in their power to report so satisfactorily. As regards the southern hemisphere, no recent intelligence has been received from either Port Elizabeth or Port Natal, but the committee have reason to feel assured that both Mr. Harman at the former, and Mr. Grosvenor at the latter, continue their labours with much acceptance, and with as large a measure of success as could be reasonably expected. Mr. Harman is wholly sustained by the people to whom he ministers. In Australia, some of the best friends of the mission, who so nobly contributed to their support a year ago, are unable to repeat their subscriptions this year. Their interest in the great objects the society labours to accomplish is as strong as ever; and there can be no doubt that, when the tide of events shall again cause a flow of prosperity to set in, they will be as willing as ever to contribute with a generosity as noble as they did on the former occasion. In Tasmania and New Zealand the brethren are fulfilling their ministry with exemplary diligence and encouraging success. Having taken a brief and rapid glance at the fields of labour which the agents of the society are striving to cultivate, the committee express their conviction, that the friends of the society will discover most abundant reason to "thank God and take courage." An evident blessing rests upon the efforts of the society. The work was never more hopeful and prosperous. The state of the society's finances is the part of the transactions of the year which occasions the committee the greatest anxiety. The amount appropriated to the Colonies, though still greatly in advance of either of the other societies, is £400, less than last year. The total amount of receipts for the year is £2,844. 10s. 10d.; while the expenditure has been £,080. 8s. 4d. The committee propose to put forth their best energies to raise the permanent income of the society to 10,000. During the past year, less than 850 churches contributed to the funds of the society. There must, therefore, be nearly a thousand from which no pecuniary aid was afforded. The committee would respectfully, but very earnestly, appeal to these.

Mr. HOWARD BAXTER, M.P., moved the adoption of the Report, and the thanks of the meeting to the different officers of the society. He thought that both in the House of which he had the honour to be a member, and out of it, few appreciated the importance of England's colonial possessions. Casting their eyes over the North American Colonies, how easily and with what certainty it might be prophesied, that in the course of one century, those colonies would grow up into an empire greater far than Rome ever governed in the days of the Cæsars. Looking again at New Zealand and Australia, those enormous territories are likely to become, within a very few years, the Englands in the Southern Seas.

The Rev. Dr. ARCHER, in seconding the resolution said he agreed with Mr. Baxter in his views of the coming prosperity of the Colonies. There was even at the present time something almost overwhelming in the progress which within the last century they had made. He thought that the greatest blessing that England could confer upon the colonies with reference to her social welfare was to saturate them with the principles of the religion which they, as Nonconformists, held. Let the spiritual liberty of the Gospel be there introduced, let the difference of sects and parties be as much as possible abolished, and let the purity and the common love of Christianity influence all hearts and pervade all minds. The Christian Church generally should enter upon some extended scheme of colonial missionary action.

The Rev. J. BROOKSTON moved, and Dr. BROWN, of Obeliskham, seconded, a resolution, expressive of gratitude for the success which had attended the efforts of the society, and calling on the British Churches to sustain its endeavours.

The Rev. ANDREW REED, of Norwich, moved a resolution, recommending the augmentation of the annual income to 10,000, and to that end the establishment, wherever practicable, of Auxiliary Societies and Congregational Associations.

The Rev. Mr. GILL, of Barotonga, seconded the resolution.

After a word or two from Mr. BINNEY, Mr. FRANK CROSSLER, M.P., moved, and Mr. Alderman WIRE seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Christian Instruction Society was held on Tuesday week, at the Poultry Chapel, on which occasion, in the absence of Mr. Alderman Chellis, EUGENIUS SMITH, Esq., presided. The Rev. A. Bromley having offered prayer, the CHAIRMAN briefly addressed the meeting.

The Rev. ROBERT ASHTON read the Report, which stated that the special attention of the committee had been directed to tent and open-air preaching; from ninety to a hundred such services were conducted during the summer, attended by at least 13,000 persons. Tracts were also plentifully distributed at fairs in the neighbourhood of London. The usual system of lecturing was adopted during the months of winter. Nearly fifty lectures on topics connected with the illustration or defence of Christianity, were delivered. Thirty ministers most readily gave their consent to lecture when solicited. More than 8,000 persons were addressed on these occasions. Special sermons were also delivered to working men, on the first Sabbath

evening in April, by twenty of the London pastors. The Religious Tract Society was reported to have given a grant this year of 400. worth of its publications. It was stated also, that several important conferences had taken place among the secretaries of the associations and the friends of the society on matters connected with the diffusion of the Gospel among the poorer classes of the people; and there was said to have been a unanimous opinion, that preaching, which was God's own instrument, should be employed more extensively, and made in many cases, more specifically adapted to the shrewd and thinking mind of the operative classes; that open-air preaching, after the style of the Whitfields and Waseleys of former days, and of Jesus and the Apostles before them, should be more extensively employed by ministers and others adapted to the work. The committee further observed that this society is not supported, nor is it worked, as it might be. But for the timely transfer of 500. three per cent. stock, bequeathed some years since by Broadley Wilson, Esq., of Clapham, the society would have been in fearful difficulties. The actual receipts in money have been only 339. 19s. 7d., while the disbursements have amounted to 540. 6s. To meet this crisis the treasurer was directed to sell 200., and the remainder is reserved for the possible exigency of the society during the present year.

The Rev. JOHN BLACKBURN moved:—

That the Report now read be adopted and printed; and that this meeting would offer to Almighty God the expression of its heartfelt gratitude, that He has, through the long period of thirty years, inclined the hearts of so many ministers, visitors, and others, to co-operate in this good work; and that He has been pleased to crown their labours with so many instances of success. He said, that thirty years ago he was taking an active part in the organisation of the Christian Instruction Society; and he blessed God that he found it was continuing its labours unto the present day. (Hear.) Well did he remember a few friends meeting together in the back parlour of a worthy shoemaker's shop in Red Lion-street, Holborn, to confer about the formation of that society. (Hear.) Many of its now present active supporters were not born, and many had gone to their reward. These were affecting thoughts in the retrospect of the past; but it was cheering to remember, that the society had not been founded in vain, and had not laboured for naught. (Hear.) He thought, indeed, that its friends might congratulate themselves on their past successes. Mr. Blackburn proceeded to advert to what he regarded as the unfavourable features of the times, especially to the increase of railroad travelling and cheap excursions on Sunday. If he had influence, he would publish a list of every one of the professed Christians and Church members who were shareholders in such Sabbath-desecrating enterprises. (Hear, hear.) An awful responsibility rested upon those men. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. JOHN ADEY seconded the resolution.

The resolution having been adopted, the Rev. CHARLES GILBERT moved:—

That as every inquiry into the moral and religious condition of the metropolis reveals more fully the improvidence, immorality, and infidelity of multitudes of its teeming myriads, so it shows the need of still greater exertions being made to awaken the attention of its inhabitants to the claims of religion and morality; and therefore this meeting commits the affairs of this society to the charge of the following gentlemen as officers and committee for the ensuing year, with the special charge, that they use all practicable means to call the attention of the godless multitude to the things which make for their everlasting peace.

This society had, he said, special claims upon the Churches in consequence of the work it had really done. It was the first institution established in modern times for domiciliary visitation; and it had given rise to the District Visiting Society, the City Mission, and other kindred organisations, which at the present moment were doing a large amount of good in a more systematic and constant manner than this society had ever attempted. He quite sympathised with the remarks of his friend Mr. Blackburn, whom he was glad to meet on the platform on that occasion—(hear, hear)—for he had heard of such scenes as the drawing-rooms of deacons being cleared for a ball. (Hear, hear.) All kinds of worldliness seemed to be rolling in upon the Church; reading novels, card-playing, dancing, and he knew not what beside. He had been led to believe that, as a Christian, he was to come out of the world, and turn his back on these things. (Hear, hear.) Now-a-days everything seemed to be going back. He did trust, however, that something would be done to assist in arresting this spirit of worldliness, and would propose that there should be a course of lectures delivered during the next winter by some of their most efficient and godly ministers on this subject.

The Rev. WILLIAM LEASK, of Kennington, in seconding the resolution, said that this society was the most economical, the worst supported, and the most modest of all the societies they had; while, at the same time, it aimed at a specific object in a worthy manner. It sought to benefit the working millions of this metropolis, by coming into direct contact with their minds and hearts. (Hear, hear.) In every respect it commended itself very strongly to his approval.

The Rev. Professor TOMKINS, of Nova Scotia, supported the resolution.

Mr. PITMAN earnestly appealed for liberal contributions, and at the same time announced that a donation of ten guineas had been received from James Braud, Esq., and another of two guineas from Henry Thompson, Esq.

The Rev. Dr. MASSIE then moved:—

That, believing it to be the duty and privilege of every Christian to assist personally, according to his ability and opportunity, in promoting the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, this meeting would earnestly request the friends who have hitherto lent their aid to continue their exertions; and entreat the members of every Christian Church in this metropolis to use their utmost efforts to convey to their thoughtless fellow-citizens the tidings of salvation through the crucified Redeemer.

The Rev. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, of Douglas, Isle of Man, having seconded the resolution, Mr. PITMAN

moved, and Mr. ASHTON seconded, a resolution of thanks to the Chairman, which was cordially agreed to. In returning thanks for the vote, Mr. SMITH took occasion to remark, that he did not take so gloomy a view of the condition of the Churches of this city as some of the friends seemed disposed to do during the early part of the evening. He could not but believe that much more was being done now than at any former period for the evangelisation of the masses of the people.

LONDON CITY MISSION.

This Society held its annual meeting on Thursday, the 3rd inst., in the great room of Exeter Hall, which was crowded on the occasion. J. P. PLUMPTRE, Esq., presided.

The Rev. Mr. GARWOOD, the Secretary, read the Report, of which the following is an abstract:—The general impression of the missionaries was, that owing to the pestilence of the cholera during the past autumn, and the war, together with the high price of provisions and deficiency of employment, there had never been so trying a year for the working-classes as that to which the Report referred, and the benefits conferred by the labours of the missionaries had been great in proportion. The number of visits paid by the missionaries to cases of Asiatic cholera, exclusive of English cholera cases, and cases of children, was 5,838. The Report entered into a detailed statement of the visits paid to the various districts where cholera had been most rife; in many of which, even in the cholera hospitals and workhouses, the visits of the missionaries were the only means of religious consolation afforded to the poor who fell victims to the scourge. It was a cause of great thankfulness to God, that notwithstanding the severity of the duty, and the almost daily exposure to the pestilence, one of the society's missionaries only had died of cholera, and only one from other causes; the committee attributed this, and the comparatively small amount of sickness which had prevailed during the year amongst the society's missionaries, to the fact of their having engaged the services of a medical man to attend to them and their wives and families. The total number of visits paid to sick and dying adults in general, during the year, had been 15,295, being an increase of 3,022 on the number during the previous year. Upwards of one-third of the persons thus visited received no other religious consolation. After referring to the visits of the missionaries to the wives, the widows, and the orphans of the soldiers engaged and who had fallen in the Crimea, and the distribution of tracts to the soldiers previous to their departure, and to their friends subsequently, for the purpose of being forwarded to them in letters, and quoting many interesting cases evidencing the benefits that had resulted from this feature of the agency, the document proceeded to observe, that owing to the paucity of funds, there had been only one addition made to the number of the missionaries during the year—the total number being now 328, against 327 in the previous year; and even this increase could not have taken place had not the society received a large legacy during the year. The number of hours spent in domiciliary visitations had been less during the last than in the previous year; but the aggregate amounts of missionary work had been large, and the result had been larger. The total number of visits paid during the year had been 1,484,563, being an increase on the previous year of 45,245. The number of religious tracts distributed had been 2,092,854, being an increase of 161,149; of religious books lent, 50,458, increase, 13,647; Bibles distributed, 8,155, increase 1,427. Meetings held for the purposes of prayer and exposition of the Scriptures 25,318, increase 2,283. Fallen women persuaded to enter asylums or to return to their friends 411, against 376 in 1854, and 217 in 1853. Drunkards reclaimed 654, being an increase over the previous year of 87. Besides this, 470 persons living together unmarried had been persuaded to marry; 360 families had been induced to commence the practice of family prayer; 700 persons had been brought to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; 967 cases of decided repentance and improvement of life were also reported; 9,561 children had been sent to school through the exertions of the society's missionaries, being an increase of 1,708 over the number of the previous year. The number of open-air services and the attendance at them also showed a considerable increase. The financial statement showed an increase in the receipts as compared with the previous year, but this was made up in part by a legacy of upwards of 4,000., from the late Mrs. Margaret Wilson, of Eaton-square, and was wholly insufficient to meet the growing demands upon the society, or even to maintain the present agency during the year.

The Rev. Canon MILLER moved the adoption of the Report.

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL, of Surrey Chapel, seconded the resolution, and said, that from an experience of twelve years in a provincial town, he was convinced that the agency of a society like this, which provided for the house-visitation of those who were unable to avail themselves, or who neglected the means of grace presented at the ordinary place of worship, was peculiarly adapted for London and large, densely-populated towns. He spoke in favour of open-air preaching, which he thought would be most effectually carried on by the mixed agency of educated clergymen and lay Scripture-readers, the latter attending upon and preparing the way for the clergyman.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. Messrs. OWEN, JAMES, and COLLINSON, and other gentlemen, and terminated with the usual vote to the chairman.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The anniversary services of this useful society were

held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday week.

The annual meeting of members for receiving the Report and electing the officers and committee took place in the Lecture Hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, Aldergate-street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. JOHN MANN occupied the chair; and, after the usual introductory devotional exercises, the CHAIRMAN briefly addressed the meeting.

Mr. W. H. WATSON read the Report. The committee recorded with satisfaction the progress of the Sunday-school cause in France, where it had recently been ascertained that no less than 300 Evangelical Sunday-schools already existed. In New South Wales a union had been formed at Sydney, and the committee of the parent society had just received an order from Melbourne for 3000 worth of their publications. The special attention of the committee had been directed during the year to the promotion of greater practical union between the ministers and deacons of our churches with the school. For this purpose conferences had taken place of a very interesting and satisfactory character, in which several metropolitan ministers took part. The committee had also directed their efforts to improved modes of teaching and a more extensive use of the press. The usual visitations of country schools and unions had been continued, and with the best results. The Report stated that a site in the Old Bailey had been secured for the erection of the Jubilee building, the foundation-stone of which would be laid as speedily as practicable. The cost of the erection would be upwards of 5,000*l.*, and the committee appealed to the friends of religious education to augment the fund applicable to the expenditure. The committee called special attention to the fact, that the Sunday-school Union, of all our religious institutions, receives the smallest amount of pecuniary support: the total contributions to its benevolent fund during the year, including the collection at the annual meeting, was only 357*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* The grants for building new schools, lending-libraries at reduced prices, supplies of books in aid of schools, visitation of country unions, and the support of a library and reading-room for teachers at the Depository, had exhausted this income, together with the profits of the society's trading operations; and had increased the debt on the Benevolent Fund account to upwards of 800*l.*, instead of about 750*l.*, as it stood last year. The Report concluded by touchingly alluding to the removal and decease of some of the most active friends and members of the union, including Mr. Henry Altham, Mr. Nisbet, and Mr. W. Brodie Gurney, its founder and president.

Mr. J. SMITH, treasurer of the East London Auxiliary, moved the adoption of the Report, which was seconded by Mr. STARLING, the treasurer of the Islington branch; and after a variety of questions had been put and answered, was carried unanimously.

Mr. COLVERWELL, of the South London Auxiliary, moved the appointment of the officers and committee for the ensuing year—the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird as president; Alderman Challis, M.P., treasurer; &c., &c.

Mr. LINSKY seconded the resolution, which was cordially adopted.

On Wednesday evening, the Rev. W. CADMAN, M.A., preached the annual sermon to the members and friends of the Union, in St. George's Church, Borough.

On Thursday morning, at seven o'clock, the committee of the Union, and the country delegates, met for prayer and conference, at the Depository, Paternoster-row. There was a very numerous attendance. The subject of the conference was, "Is it desirable to have a uniform lesson in all the classes?" The testimony of the representatives of country unions was decidedly in favour of the system.

The annual public meeting was held at Exeter Hall, on Thursday evening. As usual, the spacious building was crowded in every part; FRANK CROSSLAND, Esq., M.P., took the chair at six o'clock, and a hymn having been sung, the Rev. JAMES COOPER offered prayer.

After a few words from the Chairman, who said that he had served two seven years' apprenticeships to the Sunday-school cause, Mr. W. H. WATSON read the Report, which had been adopted by the members at the meeting for business.

The Rev. S. MARTIN, of Westminster, spoke to the first sentiment, "The lives of faithful men, an example to the young," confining his remarks to the illustrious dead, referred to in the Report. James Nisbet he held up as an example of strong determined resistance of first temptations—Dr. Joseph Beaumont, as an example of a man doing the work of Christ with a ready mind—William Jones, as an example of the combination of business habits with a devout spirit in the service of Christ—George Deane, as an illustration of fidelity to the claims of Christ's kingdom until death—John Shorman, as an illustration of a man who attended thoroughly to family claims, and who gave all his spare time and energies to Sunday-school instruction—George Mogridge, as an example of joyous religion and cheerful toil—Henry Altham, as an example of a man who did what he had to do with all his might—and William Brodie Gurney, an example of earnest consecration and steady devotedness to the cause of truth.

The Rev. J. C. MILLER, rector of St. Margaret's Church, Birmingham, eloquently addressed himself to the subject of "the religious instruction of the young, the best safeguard of society." The collection having been made, and a hymn sung, E. BALL, Esq., M.P., spoke of "the Sunday-school as the necessary companion of the day-school." The Rev. C. VINCE, of Birmingham, spoke of "the Christian Sabbath; a blessing, physically, morally, and spiritually." N. T. LANGRIDGE, Esq., addressed the meeting on the subject of "the Teacher's Influence in the Homes of the Scholars."

Mr. WATSON then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Crossland, for his kindness in presiding; which, having been adopted, the CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the vote, and the proceedings were closed by singing a hymn.

RAGGED-SCHOOL UNION.

The eleventh anniversary meeting of the friends and supporters of the ragged schools of the metropolis was held on Monday evening at Exeter Hall. Lord SHAFTESBURY, who was surrounded by numerous clergymen and other members of the visiting and managing committees, took the chair. The meeting having been opened by prayer.

The CHAIRMAN said it was unnecessary that he should, on that, the eleventh anniversary of the Union, detain them with any lengthened argument in support of the necessity for ragged schools. The facts spoke for themselves. They did not come there to be convinced, he presumed they were convinced already, and the best argument which he could advance was found in the Report which would be read. He, however, congratulated them on the success of their efforts, and called upon them again to thank Almighty God for the large share of success granted to all their operations. He had no doubt that any one conversant with the state of some localities of the metropolis a few years ago, would now, if he visited those localities, find a marked change in the morale of the population in consequence of the introduction of ragged schools. He would find that the ragged school had become the centre of the most genial influences, enjoying the sympathy and support of the people around, many of whom volunteered their services as teachers. It was a question with them how far it would be proper to receive public money for the advancement of the movement; but, for his part, he would reject such assistance if it interfered with their system; for whatever might be the desire for administrative reform in some quarters, there was no such desire in regard to the management of the Ragged-school Union. (Cheers.)

The Report was then read by the secretary. It stated, that in connexion with the 137 institutions now embraced in the union, there were 113 Sunday schools, with 14,248 scholars; 79 day schools, with 10,449 scholars; 108 evening schools, with 7,184 scholars, making a total of 300 schools, and about 17,600 scholars, a portion of whom were trained in some industrial pursuit. During the last year there was an increase in the Sunday schools of 1,148 scholars, day 1,449, evening 784, industrial classes 294, in voluntary teachers 127, paid teachers 20. With regard to the Shoe-black Society, there were three in operation, the red coats, the blue, and the yellow, the total average of boys at work being ninety-five. The earnings of the red coats for the year ending March last was 1,443*l.*; they cleaned 286,469 pairs of shoes; the blue coats, 38,962 pairs; and the yellow coats, 20,978. Of the Shoe-black Brigade, 337 scholars were provided with situations. It was estimated that a larger number than this was provided for, as the greater proportions of the schools had not sent in their returns. Prizes were awarded during the year to upwards of 400 boys and girls, who had kept their situations for twelve months to the satisfaction of their employers. The resolution adopted last year to grant 5*l.* annually towards the support of the inmates of Refuges coming under certain conditions, was found to work successfully. There were at present nine refuges for males, and six for females, affording accommodation for about 350 boys and 150 girls. During the year, a monthly average of about 180 of the inmates came within the conditions, and towards their support the committee voted 389*l.* In alluding to the recent legislation on the subject of reformatories and industrial schools, the Report stated that Lord Palmerston's bill, in consequence of the clauses requiring compulsory payment from the parents of children, was found inoperative, and it was expected it would be amended. Since the last annual meeting, seventeen boys had been sent to the colonies, and ten more were now on the point of emigrating. Referring to the financial circumstances of the schools, the committee had great gratification in reporting that the donations and subscriptions equalled those of any previous year, although to keep up the efficiency of their operations they required the sum of 900*l.* above the income. The returns made by 110 local schools showed receipts during the year to the amount of 17,326*l.*, and expenses 19,124*l.* The returns from all the schools are estimated to show receipts 22,000*l.*, which, added to the general fund, would make a total of 25,000*l.* in support of the Ragged-school movement.

The meeting was addressed by Viscount Ebrington, M.P., the Dean of Carlisle, the Revs. J. M. Hussey, H. S. Brown, W. Curling, Mr. Joseph Payne, and other gentlemen. Resolutions were then passed pledging the friends of the movement to further exertions, and expressive of their thanks to the office-bearers and teachers of the various local schools, and to the noblemen, ministers and gentlemen who had contributed so much to the success of their operations.

The meeting terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to Lord Shaftesbury, for his long-continued and laborious efforts on behalf of industrial schools generally, and also for occupying the chair on the present occasion.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society, preceded by the usual examination, took place on Tuesday, at the school-room in the Borough-road.

The Duke of ARGYLL, who presided, said, that on the last occasion of his appearing in public in connexion with the society it was in the somewhat more stormy atmosphere of Exeter Hall. He rather congratulated the members on the change in their place of meeting. He did not believe it indicated any less value set by the public upon the principles of

the society, or any retrocession on its part, as regarded the extent of its operations or the value of its principles. (Hear, hear.) It must be very gratifying to the friends of education that there were in the present session no less than five or six different bills on the subject competing with each other for the support of the representatives of the people in Parliament. No opportunity of discussing educational principles should be lost, because he believed that the more they were discussed the smaller those differences which separated the advocates of various schemes would appear. They would, indeed, be found to be differences in theory rather than of any great practical value, and such as might be overcome by the exercise of a little toleration and good sense on the part of the English people. (Applause.) After describing the secular and denominational systems of education, he said, there was, however, a third mode—the one adopted by the British and Foreign School Society, and the only one, he thought, upon which secular and religious education could ever be practically joined together on a large scale—that having for its basis the Scriptures, and the Scriptures alone. (Hear, hear.) He had heard many persons taken with the ridiculous idea that religion could be taught in some abstract system, apart from any form of faith; but while differing from these, in holding that what Christians were entitled to call religion could not be taught without something of doctrinal belief, he was sure that those were still more in error who held that the Christian religion could not be taught by the Bible alone but only in the form of catechisms and creeds, and any one who had heard the examination that morning must be convinced that such was not the fact. (Applause.) He thought, therefore, that the system of that society, although not including certain extreme views which it would be impossible to include in any system, was the only one that could possibly be made the basis of a great and general system of education; and he trusted that the good sense which had prescribed and carried out the original rules of the society would be reinforced in the two Houses of Parliament, so that before the close of another session some measure might be passed which would overtake the waste places of the country and educate the poor in a scriptural and yet liberal manner. (Applause.)

Mr. DUNN, the secretary, then read the Report. It stated that the average attendance at the model schools, during the past year, had been 377, affording employment to 33 pupil teachers. The Normal schools had been attended by 148 young men and 137 young women. Certificates of merit had been awarded to 57 students, 55 new Queen's scholars had been admitted, and 140 scholars had been supplied with teachers. In the agency department, 293 visits of inspection had been paid to schools, in 649 towns and villages; 98 public meetings had been held, and 41 new schools opened, affording education, it was supposed, to 4,000 additional children. Grants had been made to schools in the East and West Indies, Cayman, New Zealand, and the South Seas, and correspondences maintained with the friends of education in southern and western Africa, Canada, Australia, Greece, and Syria. The total receipts of the year had been 17,354*l.*, of which 5,425*l.* consisted of legacies; the expenditure, including a repayment of loan, 15,691*l.*

The Rev. W. CADMAN proposed, and the Rev. W. ARTHUR seconded, the adoption of the Report, which was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. JOHN ALDIS moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting, deeply impressed with the conviction that the amount of popular ignorance still prevailing in this country is lamentably great, would earnestly entreat the friends of education to renew and extend their efforts for the scriptural instruction of the people.

The resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. Mr. GILL, a missionary from the South Sea Islands, was carried by acclamation.

The Dean of HUNTERFORD, in moving the third resolution, "That the most respectful thanks of the meeting be offered to Her Majesty the Queen and to his Royal Highness Prince Albert for the continuance of the Royal patronage and support," said the advances made in education during the last ten years was far greater than the public had estimated. He was convinced that the labouring classes were educated in far greater numbers than heretofore, and that the description of education imparted to them was of the most salubrious description. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ROBERT AGLIOW seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

The thanks of the meeting were then presented to the Duke of Bedford, the president of the society, and to the Duke of Argyll for taking the chair.

The Duke of ARGYLL acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting, which was very numerous, attended, separated.

CHINESE EVANGELISATION SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held on Thursday, April 25, at the Society's rooms, 15, Bedford-row, Captain Fishbourne, R.N., in the chair. The Rev. Owen Clarke having opened the proceedings by prayer, the Chairman said he had that day met a gentleman who had acted as interpreter on the occasion of a late visit to Nanking, and who, although he took but little interest in religion for its own sake, had paid great attention to the movement in China. He had read almost everything connected with it; and he had come to the conclusion, that the opinions professed and published by the insurgent leader at Nanking were fully accounted for by the circumstance, that he wrote at an early period of his Christian life, and had some difficulties in apprehending the whole truth and transferring it accurately into his own language. One favourable circumstance which he would notice, was that a work had been begun among a people who had not previously been idolaters, namely, the Miao-tse, whom

he believed to be identical with the race known as the Karens, in Burmah. The openings afforded by the movement in China for the spread of the Gospel were important and interesting. The best guarantee which he knew for the sincerity of the Chinese reformers, was the fact, that they circulated far and wide the Holy Scriptures; and it was made imperative, that the heads of the nation should study the Scriptures, and instruct the people in them. The Secretary then read the Annual Report, from which it appeared that the society has four missionaries, four colporteurs, and four youths in training as native evangelists. The missionaries had been preaching the Gospel and distributing Bibles and tracts in various districts with considerable success. The society had, during the past year, been enabled to print the entire Scriptures in Chinese, and since the last report, 5,000 copies of the New Testament and 10,000 copies of the Psalms had been circulated by the society's agents. The total receipts for the year were 1,772l. 18s. 9d., making, with the balance of last year, 2,108l. 4s. 10d., the expenditure being 2,078l. 1s. 2d. The meeting was afterwards addressed by Lieut.-Col. Rolleston, of Addiscombe, and Richard Ball, Esq., of Bristol. The Doxology having been sung, Mr. Ball offered up prayer, and the proceedings terminated.

THE WAR.

SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

The following official messages from the Crimea have been published:—

SEBASTOPOL, May 10.—The Russians made a sortie with a large body of troops on our right advanced trench this morning, but were driven back immediately. A second and similar attempt shared the same fate. Nothing could be better than the conduct of the troops who took part in the affair. The loss of the enemy was serious.

SEBASTOPOL, May 11, 5.45 p.m.—The enemy opened a heavy fire on our trenches last night, and maintained it for nearly two hours. Their troops did not attack our advanced parallels. The Russians hoisted a flag of truce yesterday evening, with a view to bury their dead, who were killed the night before, in front of our advance. The truce was granted.

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 11, 12.50 a.m.—The enemy made a sortie last night (Friday) in the advanced works of the left attack; they moved forward in two columns, but both were immediately repulsed with considerable loss. The conduct of the troops was admirable. Our loss was one officer and five men killed, and thirty men wounded.

On the 9th, General la Marmora arrived in the Crimea, with 4,000 Piedmontese troops.

Prince Gortschakoff, under date of the 6th of May, writes:—"Between the 5th and 6th, the enemy increased their batteries and strengthened their approaches against Bastion No. 5. The fire of the enemy was especially directed against Bastions 4 and 5, and against the Selinghinsk and Volhynia Redoubts, to which we successfully replied. Between the 3rd and 4th, the enemy sprung two mines, with a view to regain their old entrenchments. We worked against them with different counter-mines. On the night between the 4th and 5th, we made a small sortie, and took an English officer and three men prisoners. During the last few days, three of the enemy's powder-magazines have blown up. On the evening of the 1st of May, the greater portion of the enemy's fleet stood out to sea, it is said with 10,000 to 15,000 troops on board. On the 2nd, it was seen sailing past Yalta, it is believed in the direction of the coast of Anapa."

A despatch from St. Petersburg, dated Saturday evening, is to the following effect:—"Prince Gortschakoff writes from the Crimea that to the 8th May, in the evening, nothing important had taken place before Sebastopol. The fire of the Allies was moderate. The Allied fleet, which went out on the 3rd, proceeded until off Kerch, and then returned. A part of the troops embarked appear to have been put ashore in Kamiesch Bay."

The regular written correspondence from the Crimea comes down to the 28th April, but it throws no light upon the progress of the siege. Two incidents in camp life are recorded—a visit from Lord Stratford, and a review of part of the French army. Lord Stratford, Lady Stratford, Lady George Paget, General Vivian, and the Misses Canning, arrived at Balaklava, in the Caradoc, on the 26th April, and returned to Constantinople on the 29th. Lord Stratford was the guest of Lord Raglan, but the ladies lived on board the Caradoc.

The *Moniteur* prints a passage from a letter written to the Emperor by General Canrobert, on the 28th April, in which the General "with pleasure" announces "that the English army, always so solid, has become as fine and healthy as it was in the first days of its arrival in the East. It is receiving reinforcements in infantry, in cavalry, and in means of transport. I continue to live on the most cordial terms with Lord Raglan, and the two armies continue to be closely united, and count one upon the other."

FRANCE AND POLAND.

The *Moniteur* of Friday publishes a letter from the Polish General Rybicki, general-in-chief of the Polish army in 1831, to the Emperor in which the writer, after alluding to his Majesty's recent preservation says:—

The hope of a calm and great future which at this moment reigns in Europe cannot be realised without your truly providential and heroic initiative. Under you, its true chief, Europe will advance boldly towards its new destinies. Poland has religiously preserved, with love and veneration, those glorious traditions which, revived and developed by your imperial Majesty, open a new era for France and Poland, and by the union of these two countries for the great European family. Sire, Poland hopes all from the Divine justice; and in its faith in your Majesty it is convinced that this justice will be executed by no other than you. Poland, Sire, suffers

and looks towards the West, where it sees and loves only your Majesty.

The *Moniteur* also publishes an address of congratulation presented by Prince Czartoryski, formerly President of the Government of Poland; General Chrzastinski, General Skarzynski, M. Morawski, Minister of Foreign Affairs for Poland in 1830, and M. Adam Mickiewicz.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

It is intended to concentrate the Foreign Legion enlisted in British America at Shorncliffe, where also a large number of Swiss volunteers will be encamped. The Poles and Germans will be quartered and disciplined at Heligoland.

The Emperor of the French has granted a pension of 4,000 francs to the widow of General Bizot.

The following is the finding of the Court of Inquiry concerning the circumstances under which Dr. Hector Gavin met his death, on the 21st ult.:—"Balaklava, April 21, 1855.—The court having received the evidence submitted to them, are perfectly satisfied of the nature of the accident by which Dr. Gavin met his death. In their opinion, Mr. William Gavin stands completely exonerated from any fault—a charge of carelessness even could not be substantiated against him. As a mark of their entire agreement in this opinion, they have signed their names below.—(Signed) W. G. Romaine, President; John Sutherland, M.D., sanitary commissioner; A. Anderson, Prin. Med. officer, Balaklava."

Lord Raglan has granted a gratuity of 5l. each to Privates Samuel Evans, James Callaghan, and Thomas Keating, three soldiers of the 18th Regiment, for gallant conduct before the enemy.

The Simla has arrived from the Crimea with 250 Russian prisoners, 12 officers, 150 English invalids, a guard of 47 men, and 18 other military passengers.

That Austria is quietly concentrating her troops is undoubted. A private correspondent, writing from Florence on the 5th inst., supplies the following illustration:—"The whole of the Austrian troops have now left this city, with the exception of the invalids and sick in hospital; and by to-morrow afternoon the last detachment will have crossed the Tuscan frontier, on their way towards Bologna and Venice. The first detachment marched on Tuesday, the 1st instant, and the last this morning."

The *Invalids Russes* says, that, from the commencement of the war in the Crimea, up to March 1, the Russian loss in wounded (without reckoning the dead) has amounted to 15,123.

It is understood that a portion of the troops, consisting chiefly of militia regiments, will proceed to Aldershot during the week.

Private letters from St. Petersburg, received in the course of the past week, notice the almost absolute ascendancy of the war party in the Imperial Council, and speak of the approaching retirement of Count Nesselrode.

Letters from Helsingfors, of the 26th ult., state that the formation of the twenty-six battalions of Finlanders, ordered by the late Czar, is now complete. The new steam-frigate Galkan, of 360 horse-power, is ready for launching, and the Wyberg, a sailing-ship of the line, has just received engines of 450 horse-power. An order was lately issued, that in future ships built in the Imperial yards shall be fitted with the screw. It is now ordered that the existing sailing-vessels shall be successively taken into dock and receive engines and propellers.

The Aland Islands are denuded of Russian troops. Several English ships have already arrived before Rodham, near Ledsund.

The *Austrian Gazette* and *Ost Deutsche Post* concur in stating that the Courts of Vienna and Berlin have made great progress towards a common understanding within the last few days. Berlin journals say that Austria will not now follow up in the Diet the proposition to mobilise the federal army of Germany.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The appeal of Pianori against the sentence of the Court of Assizes of the Seine was presented on Saturday to the Court of Cassation, by whom it was rejected. On Monday, at 5 a.m., he was executed.

A letter from Rome states that the Golden Rose which the Pope blesses every year, and presents to some female sovereign, is this year to be given to the Empress of Austria.

At the beginning of this month a long-expected eruption of Vesuvius began. A large quantity of lava flowed towards Resina. All Naples was absorbed in watching the phenomenon.

Cholera is raging in Warsaw; about 200 persons are attacked daily, and a third of these die.

Letters from Madrid of the 4th state that Lord Howden does not cease to press the Government to allow Protestant worship to be freely exercised in Spain; but the Minister of Foreign Affairs replies that, as the penal code forbids any meeting of more than twenty persons without the permission of the authorities, it is not possible to make the concession demanded.

The commercial advices recently received from the Australian Colonies are more favourable than were looked for. An active trade has been opened at Melbourne with the interior, and prices had in consequence improved. Gold was in active demand for remittance to England. The export trade in wool was inactive. At Sydney, trade continued dull, but it was somewhat better than at the date of previous advices. From South Australia the accounts are also more satisfactory.

The "sea serpent" is said to have exhibited himself again, to the extent of 100 feet, along the Delaware coast. His appearance was telegraphed to Philadelphia, and an expedition started in pursuit of him, stimulated by an offer of 1,000 dollars reward. Why does not Barnum catch him?

The accounts of the vine in many parts of Portugal are very bad—the disease seems worse than ever; but in the Alto Douro the Port vines are in a healthy state. The orange and lemon trees have been damaged at the roots by a worm, and the olives have suffered from myriads of flies.

At Boston, recruiting for the British Foreign Legion is going on actively, under the direction of the Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia, in the most open manner, without any interference from the authorities.

THE VIENNA PROTOCOLS.

The papers relating to the negotiations at Vienna on the Eastern Question have been delivered. They comprise the memorandum of the Allies to the Russian Ambassador on the 28th December, and thirteen protocols, recording the discussions as well as the proceedings of as many conferences. This memorandum developed the four points with more fulness and precision. Its substance was presented in an abridged but still in a very clear form, by Count Buol, in opening the conference on the 11th March; when the count invoked the Divine auspices in the endeavour to establish peace.

1. The protectorate exercised by Russia over Moldavia and Wallachia shall cease; and the privileges conferred by the Sultans on those Principalities, as well as on Servia, shall henceforward be placed under the collective guarantee of the contracting Powers.

2. The freedom of the navigation of the Danube shall be completely secured by effectual means, and under the control of a permanent syndical authority.

3. The treaty of July 13, 1841, shall be revised, with the double object of connecting more completely the existence of the Ottoman Empire with the European equilibrium, and of putting an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea.

4. Russia abandons the principle of covering with an official protectorate the Christian subjects of the Sultan of the Oriental ritual; but the Christian Powers will lend each other their mutual assistance in order to obtain from the initiative of the Ottoman Government the confirmation and the observance of the religious rights of the Christian communities subject to the Porte, without distinction of ritual.

Prince Gortschakoff gave his adhesion to the common design with great solemnity. "We are here as serious men, met together to work on a serious matter, the most arduous which has occurred in our times; and we must all heartily endeavour to avoid generalities, in order to arrive at a practical application of the principles which we have adopted, and consequently to enter without further delay upon the development of the details of each question."

Four conferences, from the 19th to the 23rd March, were devoted to the first two points; the Russian Plenipotentiaries conspicuously defending the local immunities and privileges of the inhabitants of the Principalities, and professing the greatest desire for the unobstructed navigation of the Danube.

At the conference of the 23rd March, the third point came under discussion; and the Allies offered that Russia should take the initiative in proposing a plan to develop this point. With many professions of rejoicing at the sentiments of courtesy and conciliation that he had heard, Prince Gortschakoff asked leave to refer this question to his own Government. This was agreed to.

A proposal was thrown out to proceed with the discussion of the fourth point; to which, Prince Gortschakoff remarked that he attached no political idea, though he manifested no unwillingness to consider it, and he reverted to it at subsequent conferences on the 29th March and 2nd April.

On the 17th April, Prince Gortschakoff announced that Russia declined to take the initiative. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who had joined the conference on the 9th, expressed his deep regret that after a delay of eighteen days Russia threw back the initiative on the other Powers. "He put the question, whether Russia would consider her rights of sovereignty infringed if she deprived herself of the liberty of building an unlimited number of ships of war in the Black Sea. Prince Gortschakoff replied, that Russia would not consent to the strength of her navy being restricted to any fixed number, either by treaty or in any other manner."

Lord John Russell could not disguise his surprise at Russia's declining the initiative; the surrender of which was to give her the opportunity of making proposals consistent with her honour. . . . "Since the Court of St. Petersburg had declined to take the initiative on this subject, the chances of success attending the negotiations for peace appeared in his eyes much diminished." The other Allied Plenipotentiaries joined in the opinions expressed by the English and French Plenipotentiaries. The conference broke off without result. At the next conference, Prince Gortschakoff asked whether Austria considered that the limitations of Russian forces in the Black Sea were, in case Russia refused, to be accomplished by means of coercion? Austria, replied Count Buol, recommended the adoption of the project by Russia; but the Emperor of Austria reserved full means for supporting the proposition hereafter. Subsequently, M. de Titoff, catching at something that M. Drouyn de Lhuys had let fall, said that the best mode of settling the question would consist in facilitating direct explanations between Russia and Turkey. This was scouted. At the next conference, on the 21st April, Prince Gortschakoff read a long memorandum, representing that in former times Russia had been invited to defend Turkey, and that other Powers might menace her; and then he proposed a project on the third point for opening the Dardanelles to war-ships of all nations. Baron Prokesch objected to the project, as against the unanimous opinion of the four Powers. At the close of this conference, Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys declared their instructions to be exhausted.

A further conference, however, was held on the 26th April, at which Russia made a new proposition; deemed by Count Buol to admit of discussion, and to contain "elements" for an understanding, though in its rough state not a solution nor even a basis for a solution; and Baron Prokech marked it with his strong disapprobation. At the close of this conference, Prince Gortschakoff declared that the Plenipotentiaries of Russia had amply redeemed their word by proposing several plans of solution.

We subjoin the projects before the conference on the third point.

PROPOSITION OF THE ALLIES.

Article 1. The high contracting parties wishing that the Sublime Porte should participate in the advantages of the system established by public law between the different states of Europe, engage themselves severally to respect the independence and territorial integrity of the Ottoman empire, guarantee together the strict observance of this engagement, and will in consequence consider every act or event which should be of a nature to infringe on it as a question of European interest.

Article 2. If a misunderstanding should arise between the Porte and one of the contracting parties, these two States, before having recourse to the employment of force, should place the other Powers in a position to anticipate this extreme course by pacific means.

Article 3. His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias and His Highness the Sultan, wishing reciprocally to give a proof of their confidence, and to anticipate the misgivings which might arise from the excessive development of their naval forces in the Euxine, engage respectively not to have in that sea more than four ships, four frigates, with a proportionate number of light vessels and of unarmed vessels exclusively adapted to the transport of troops.

Article 4. The rule of the closing of the Straits of the Bosphorus and of the Dardanelles, laid down by the treaty of July, 13, 1841, shall remain in force, with the exceptions specified in the following articles:—

Article 5. Each of the contracting Powers who have not an establishment in the Black Sea shall be authorised by a firman of His Highness, on notifying it five days beforehand, to bring into that sea a number of vessels equal to half the naval forces which each of the two Powers bordering on the sea shall maintain there in conformity with article two.

Article 6. At no time shall ships of war of foreign nations, with the exception of light vessels belonging to the Embassies admitted heretofore, be able to anchor at the Golden Horn; and in time of peace the number of vessels of the line of the contracting Powers who have no establishment in the Black Sea shall not be allowed to be more than four at the same time before Constantinople, in their passage from the Dardanelles to the Black Sea, and from the Black Sea to the Dardanelles.

Article 7. In case (which God forbid!) the Sultan should be menaced by an aggression, he reserves to himself the right to open the passage to all the maritime forces of his Allies.

Article 8. The two Powers bordering on the Black Sea, in order to testify to the other high contracting parties their desire to maintain with them the most friendly relations, engage to admit in all the ports situated in the Black Sea the Consuls which the latter may consider it useful to establish there.

Article 9. His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and His Highness the Sultan, wishing to give a proof of the generous sentiments with which they are animated, promise a full and entire amnesty to all inhabitants and officers of the provinces which have been the theatre of war. None of them shall be molested or prosecuted for his opinions, for his acts, or for the conduct he may have held during the war, or during the temporary occupation of the provinces by their respective troops of the belligerent parties. The inhabitants of the Islands of Aland are admitted to the benefit of this provision.

Article 10. His Majesty the King of Sardinia is comprised in the present peace. Commercial and other relations are re-established between that kingdom and the empire of All the Russias, on the same footing as they were before the declaration of war.

TURKISH INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 1.

The high contracting parties, impressed with the importance to the maintenance of the general equilibrium of seeing the Sublime Porte participating in the advantages of the union established by public law between the different European States, declare that they will henceforth consider her as an integral part of this union; engage each on its own part to respect the independence and the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire; guarantee in common the strict observance of this engagement; and will in consequence consider every act, &c.

FIRST RUSSIAN PROJECT.

Article 1. The high contracting Courts being desirous of putting an end to the anxieties which may arise from the inequality of the naval forces of the two bordering Powers in the basin of the Black Sea, His Highness the Sultan, by a spontaneous act of his sovereign will, consents to modify the rule of the closing of the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus, as provided for by the treaty of 1-13 July, 1841, and to grant henceforth, without distinction, to the flags of war of all nations, the free passage through these Straits to proceed from the Archipelago into the Black Sea, and vice versa.

Article 2. The arrangements for regulating the passage of ships of war through these Straits, and laying down the positions and the duration of the anchorages, shall form the subject of a special regulation, which the Sublime Porte shall promulgate, according as it may think necessary for its security.

Article 3. The regulation mentioned in the preceding article shall be identical for the flags of war of all nations in a state of peace, with the Sublime Porte; who, called upon to enjoy it on a footing of perfect equality, shall engage scrupulously to observe it.

Article 4. His Highness the Sultan, however, reserves to himself, with a view to particular circumstances, to introduce into the provisions of that regulation in favour of any flag he pleases, exceptional and temporal modifications, destined to extend the privileges for a limited time.

Article 5. In case (which God forbid!) the Sublime Porte should herself be in a state of war, or should see her security compromised by hostilities which might break out between other Powers, His Highness the Sultan reserves to himself the power to suspend the free passage through the Straits either entirely or partially,

until the cessation of the circumstances which may have required such a measure.

SECOND RUSSIAN PROJECT.

Article 1. The principle of the closing of the Straits of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles in time of peace sanctioned by the ancient legislation of the Sublime Porte, and by the treaty of July 1-13, 1841, remains in full force.

Article 2. His Highness the Sultan reserves to himself the power to open, by way of temporary exception, the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus to the fleets of foreign Powers which the Sublime Porte should think it necessary to summon whenever she should consider her security menaced.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

The Administrative Reform Association has been, during the past week, actively engaged in organising the basis of its future proceedings. The general committee, which consists of a very large number of merchants and traders connected with the City, held a meeting a few days since, and agreed to the appointment of a business and finance committee. The business committee consists, at present, of Mr. Morley (chairman), Messrs. Tito and Bennoch (deputy chairmen), Mr. Travers (treasurer), Mr. Samuel Brown (secretary), and several other eminent men of business. Messrs. Currie, who are stated to be cordial and liberal supporters of the association, have been appointed its bankers. Subscriptions are flowing in with a readiness which affords great encouragement to the promoters of the association. A sub-committee has been appointed for the purpose of preparing an address, explanatory of the objects of the association, and of the mode of its future action, which will be ready for publication in a few days. The association will also shortly be in possession of offices in the city of London, with the necessary staff for carrying on its correspondence and business. Already a large amount of correspondence from the principal towns of the United Kingdom has been received, desiring information as to the future course of the association, expressing a cordial concurrence in its objects, and proposing to call public meetings in connexion with, and under the conduct of, the central body in London.

Alderman Carr, of Sheffield, has received the following communication from Mr. Rebeck, acknowledging the receipt of a petition to Parliament agreed to at a recent public meeting there: "Ashley-place, Pimlico, May 5, 1855.—My dear Sir,—I will on next Monday present the petition you have forwarded to me. Army reform is indeed needed—so is reform in every department of the State. I fear, however, that we shall not speedily obtain what is so much required, and what the people so anxiously desire. The inquiry upon which I have for some weeks been engaged has proved to me that all departments of the Administration are equally faulty, and that great courage, steadfastness, and skill will be required to work out the changes needed. Believe me yours very truly, J. A. REBECK.—Mr. Ald. Carr."

Meetings are shortly to be held at Liverpool and Reading.

Postscript.

SIR W. CLAY'S MOTION TO-DAY.

The second reading of Sir W. Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill stands first on the orders for this day's sitting at 12 o'clock. Mr. Packer has given notice that, instead of introducing a bill on the subject, he will propose that Sir W. Clay's bill be read a second time that day six months. Last night 165 petitions were presented in favour of the bill. It is not unlikely that ministers will vote for the bill without too much discussing it—a desirable result. The Archbishop of Canterbury has laid a bill for the settlement of the question on the table of the House of Lords.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, yesterday, the Earl of Malmesbury complained of some irregularities in taking the division on the previous night. Proxies, he said, had been called for without notice, with the result of swelling the Ministerial majority, the Opposition not being ready to produce the proxy papers on their side. The Earl of Beaconsfield gave some explanations, and, after a brief conversation, the subject dropped. [It appears that Lord Ellenborough thus lost 43 votes: among the Peers who said "Content" to his motion there were—present 71; proxies, 43; pairs, 23; in all, 137. The number of "Non-contents" was—present, 115; proxies, 66; pairs, 22; in all, 204. In other words, Lord Ellenborough's motion was negatived by a majority of 67 in a House of 341.]

The Intestacy (Scotland) Bill and the Union of Contiguous Benefices Bill were respectively read a second time.

The Affirmation (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved a resolution expressing the opinion of the House that, in order to bring the war with Russia to a speedy termination, it was necessary to restrict the trade of that country by more efficacious measures than any which had hitherto been adopted or announced by Her Majesty's Government. Lord STANLEY of Alderley repeated the explanations which had already been often urged. Every exertion, however, would be made to establish a strict blockade at all the Russian ports, to annihilate, if possible, the direct commerce of that country along the whole extent of her seaboard. Lord Ravensworth, Lord Wodehouse, Earl Granville, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl Grey, the Earl of Derby, and Earl Fitzwilliam continued the discussion, which was terminated by the rejection of the motion by 47 to 31.

In the House of Commons, Mr. LAYARD announced his intention of bringing forward the resolutions of which he had given notice, as an amendment on the motion for committee of supply, upon Thursday week.

Mr. MACKINNON moved the appointment of a select committee to examine into the condition, revenue, and expenditure of the harbours of Ramsgate and the Cinque Ports; but the motion was withdrawn after some discussion.

Mr. HADFIELD moved that the House should resolve itself into committee to consider the laws which secured the property of the manufacturers and the wages of the workmen engaged in the fabrication of various descriptions of hardware. The motion was agreed to, and Mr. Hadfield allowed to bring in a bill on the subject.

Captain SCORELL moved for a select committee to inquire into the circumstances under which the 20,000*l.* compensation voted to the patentees of the screw propeller had been distributed to the several recipients. He defended the prior claim of Captain Carpenter. After a good deal of discussion, the motion was rejected by 69 to 49.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill to make better provision for the formation and endowment of separate and distinct parishes. The measure, he explained, would enlarge the powers of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners so as to enable them to subdivide parishes in certain cases where the population had increased, and new churches were built, and to give to existing districts a distinct parochial character.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

The Paris Universal Exhibition at the Palace of Industry was inaugurated at a quarter-past one o'clock on Tuesday, by the Emperor and Empress, in the presence of about 8,000 persons. The weather was heavy. The ceremony much resembled that at the opening of the Hyde-park Exhibition of 1851. Prince Napoleon, President of the Imperial Commission of the Exhibition, received their Majesties at the chief entrance of the building, and afterwards read an address setting forth the origin, progress, and character of the undertaking. The Emperor, after some complimentary words, said: "In inviting all nations hither, I have desired to open here a Temple of Concord."

Their Majesties afterwards, followed by Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde, placed themselves at the head of the procession and walked through the building. The applause was considerable. The Empress wore a low green ball dress of surpassing beauty. The ceremony lasted only an hour. Their Majesties left the Palace, the band playing "Partant pour la Syrie." There was an immense crowd in the Champs Elysées.

EXECUTION OF PIANORI.

Pianori was guillotined at five o'clock on Monday morning, at the new place of execution, in front of the prison of La Roquette, near Père la Chaise. A very large number of people were assembled. The spectators were kept at a great distance from the guillotine by a square of troops. Up to a late hour on Sunday night, the authorities repeated to Pianori an offer which has been frequently made, that his life should be spared if he would discover his confederates. His only answer was, that he had no revelation to make. The Abbé Hugon, the chaplain, was with him during the night, to afford him spiritual consolation. It is understood that he expressed some sort of regret for what he had done; but from his subsequent conduct it is probable that this regret was general, and referred to the laws of the Church, which the priest told him he had offended, and not specifically to the crime for which he was to suffer. When the fatal toilette was made, he cried in a firm voice, "Vive la République!" at the moment when the executioner threw over him the thick black veil appropriated to the last moments of a parricide. He walked barefoot to the scaffold with a firm step, and mounted the ladder without a moment's hesitation. When the veil was taken off, he looked calmly round upon the crowd, and at the moment when the executioner and his assistants seized him, to bind him to the plank, he cried "Vive l'Italie!" A moment after, the knife fell, and all was over. The crowd dispersed in silence.

THE WAR.

A new Imperial manifesto has been issued at St. Petersburg. The Czar orders a new levy of troops, in the proportion of twelve in a thousand. The measure, which is to have effect in the seventeen western governments of the empire, is to receive its complete execution by the end of July.

It is stated that telegraphic despatches (not published) have been received by the French Government, from which it appears that the extremely wet weather of the last two or three days extends to the Crimea. The roads and trenches are in a deplorable state, and no operation is possible for the moment. Reinforcements are still waited for.

The *Austrian Gazette* still thinks that peace is possible. It says that Austria will only engage in war in case of extremity.

It is expected in the Baltic fleet that Revel will be shortly bombarded. The weather still continues very cold, and quantities of ice floating down with the current. Report says the Russian fleet are this year coming out; and that they have got a very formidable force to oppose to the Allied squadron—one 110 gun screw, two 60 ditto, and 20 paddle vessels of 20 guns each, in addition to the sailing fleet.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, May 16.

We have not any alteration to note in prices to-day, the supplies of all grain being moderate.

Arrivals this week.—Wheat, English, 2,330 qrs; foreign 6,020 qrs. Barley, English, 1,050 qrs.; foreign, — qrs. Oats, English, 440 qrs; Irish, 1,900 qrs; foreign, 11,710 qrs. Flour, English, 1,640 qrs; Irish —; foreign, 1,325 sacks, — barrels.

NEWSPAPER STAMP RETURNS FOR 1854.

From the Parliamentary return of the circulation of newspapers in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, during the year 1854, we extract particulars of stamps issued to the following London journals:—

Nonconformist	161,500
Watchman	160,000
British Banner	158,807
Spectator	142,000
Wesleyan Times	125,000
Leader	109,000
John Bull	93,924
Britannia	91,000
Atlas	83,250
Christian Times	64,042
Patriot	(twice a week) 122,658
Inquirer	45,500

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All communications RELATING TO ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE PAPER should be addressed to Mr. William Freeman, Publisher, 69, Fleet-street, London, to whom POST-OFFICE ORDERS must be made payable at the General Post-office.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1855.

SUMMARY.

It is one of the sad characteristics of a distant war, that unnatural though it be, and terrible as are the calamities and sufferings it brings in its train, the mind becomes accustomed to its hideous features, and details from the theatre of operations excite scarcely more emotion than the report of "moving accidents by field and flood." The public tone is lowered, the moral sense is vitiated, and men talk of the slaughter of whole hecatombs of their fellow-creatures with as much indifference as they discuss the state of the money market and the opening of the Paris Exhibition. The past week has given further evidence of the indirect evils inflicted by the war with Russia. One after another of the religious and educational societies complain of diminished resources, of means of usefulness discontinued, of interesting schemes of philanthropy abandoned or postponed.

Yet amid the many indications of present trials and privations, we are sinking deeper into the difficulties incident to a great war. We seem to be more and more inextricably involved. Even the semblance of negotiation is now at an end. The last propositions of Austria—supposed to involve the equalisation of the naval forces of Russia and Turkey in the Black Sea, the deficiencies of the latter to be made good by vessels from the fleets of France and England being allowed to pass the Dardanelles,—has been definitely put aside by the Allies. Austria is thus deprived of all excuse for refusing to carry out her engagements; and, in order to recede from her position of isolation, seems to be making fresh advances to Prussia, and identifying herself more closely with the policy of the German Confederation. The Western Powers, no doubt, remonstrate and acquiesce. But there seems a disposition to go further. The insertion of addresses from distinguished Poles in the *Moniteur*, of Friday, in which an expectation is expressed that the Emperor will take up the cause of Poland, and that justice to that ancient kingdom "will be executed by no other than you," if not an indication of a new policy, is a warning to Germany that such a policy is feasible. It is, too, in harmony with the Napoleonic idea—a tradition of the first Emperor.

This is, in truth, the only novel feature of the week's news in relation to the war. We learn, however, that the siege of Sebastopol continues, though languidly. The Russians make almost nightly sorties, from which both themselves and the French suffer greatly. Their attacks on the English trenches appear to be less successful, as they have sustained more than one signal repulse. Meanwhile an expedition of some 10,000 or 15,000 of the Allied troops has been dispatched to the Sea of Azof. It appeared off the Straits of Kertch, and was then suddenly recalled. The mystery has not yet been explained, but it is thought that the expedition, which was intended to interrupt the communications of the enemy in that region, was recalled in order that sufficient transport might be provided for the conveyance of the French army of reserve from Constantinople to the Crimea. There can be no doubt that, with the large reinforcements weekly received by the Allies, a scheme of naval and military operations, on an extended scale, will shortly be put in action. From the Baltic, we hear of the continuance of ice in the Gulf of Finland, the possibility of the Grand Duke Constantine attempting to engage part of the Allied fleet, and the probability of a bombardment of Revel.

Mr. Roebuck's inquisition has at length exhausted

its list of victims. During the last week, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Admiral Dundas, Lord Hardinge, Sir James Graham, and the Earl of Aberdeen himself, have undergone examination. It wanted only the presence of Lord John Russell in the witness-box to satiate, or rather, re-stimulate, public curiosity, and to complete the cairn under which is buried the administrative reputation of "all the Talents." His lordship's examination seems the more desirable, inasmuch as the late Premier bore explicit testimony to the suddenness of Lord John's objections to the Duke of Newcastle, and the complete relinquishment of those objections no long time after. That the public service was prejudiced by these vicissitudes of opinion among its chief agents, Lord Aberdeen declined to say. In fact, every attempt on the part of leading members of the committee to make the members of the late Administration criminate each other, has failed: their mutual good opinion is invulnerable. That the inquiry has in any sense failed—that it has failed either to detect personal delinquency or errors of system—we by no means admit. It is sought to prejudice the Report based upon evidence which was certainly irregularly collected, but is not consequently incapable of classification. Mr. Roebuck's declaration to his constituents indicates a Report in harmony with his acute, uncompromising conduct of the inquiry. "Army reform," writes the honourable and learned member, acknowledging the receipt of a petition on that subject,—"is indeed needed—so is reform in every department of the State. I fear, however, that we shall not speedily obtain what is so much required, and what the people so anxiously desire. The inquiry upon which I have for some weeks been engaged has proved to me that all departments of the Administration are equally faulty, and that great courage, steadfastness, and skill will be required to work out the changes needed." Let the administrative reformers measure, by these weighty sentences, both the extent and resistance of the evils they have undertaken to destroy.

From Lord Ellenborough's motion they have derived only indirect encouragement. As a parliamentary move, it was a failure, and deservedly so. Introduced by a speech of inconsequent generalities, and supported by a speech of candid hostility, the resolutions were rejected by a majority of 67, in a House of 341. Lord Derby's advertisement of his readiness to take office—"circumstances" having greatly changed since his recent failure—was, happily, preceded by a repudiation, more honest than discreet, of Mr. Layard and the London Tavern. The industrious revival by Mr. Disraeli's organs of his administrative reform promises in 1852, is thus cruelly blighted by a superior who will learn not even as much wisdom as consists in silence. Elated by a degree of success in the Lords he could hardly have anticipated, Lord Palmerston may trust to break down the "new opposition" by a display of equal strength in the Commons. The more demonstratively the public convince him of the futility of his hope, the better both for him and us: it may save him from a great political crime, and the country from the nadir of dishonour. Let the governing classes be shown that they must abdicate, or they may use their remaining power to work us irreparable mischief.

Much of our space is again devoted to religious anniversaries. On the whole the great societies, that give a character to the May Meetings, appear to devote more attention to real business than to merely didactic oratory. The London Missionary Society anniversary had one or two specialities—such as the chairmanship of the excellent, indefatigable, and catholic Earl of Shaftesbury, whose bodily strength ought to be equal to the almost ceaseless demands upon his benevolence, the enthusiastic reception of Dr. Tidman, its Foreign Secretary, and an unusually interesting Report. We there learn how religious societies are promoting objects of secular importance. Reading of the wide range of missionary zeal; of the indefatigable efforts to translate the Scriptures into fresh languages; to train up native agents and teachers, already amounting to some six hundred; to the conversion to Christianity of one of the highest order of Brahmins; of the discoveries of Dr. Livingstone, which have extorted the gold medal of the Geographical Society; the heroism of Robert Moffat, proceeding over trackless wastes, never before trodden by the foot of a European, to visit a powerful chief who desires a conference with the African missionary; and the work being accomplished in India, China, and the South Seas—perverse and distorted must be that mind which can discover in such successful agencies the object only for sneers and heartless criticism. The question of British Foreign Missions was well argued by the Chairman. Although the funds of the Society show a falling off of more than 5,000*l.* for the year, in consequence of diminished legacies, the ordinary income is 500*l.* over that of 1854.—The proceedings of the Congregational Union passed off with great quietude. Dr. Halley's opening

address breathed a liberal and elevated spirit, worthy of the position he occupied. We are glad to observe, that an attempt to shackle the Union by a stereotyped declaration of religious faith, was generally discountenanced. Amongst other things, the Union proposes to compile a new hymn-book for the use of Congregational Churches.

An international exhibition—a scene of great artistic beauty and industrial wealth—again invites the smiles of sunny May and the admiration of holiday-making millions. This time it is the banks of the Seine, instead of the Thames, which is the site of the Crystal Palace. But either the latitude or the times are unfavourable. The sun would not animate the inaugural pageant, and the spectators seemed chilled by the recollection of the death machine that but yesterday had re-appeared in their streets. Perhaps the Emperor, albeit his beautiful Consort had arrayed herself with surpassing grace, felt the absence from his crown of the jewel, mercy—felt shorn of that chief attribute of majesty, magnanimity. The storm of war, too, cannot but becloud the glories of the spectacle vainly proclaimed the Feast of Concord. Let us pray that before winter darkens over the translucent roof, the enduring light of peace may have returned.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

UNLESS we were to draw pretty freely on imagination, or were to venture upon a series of Dutch pictures, illustrative of those minuter processes and forms of the House with which "strangers" are supposed to be unfamiliar, we could hardly hope, just now, to throw into our "Notes" the interest which we could wish them to possess. In order to a lively description, one requires some liveliness in the subject of it—and a more dreary, monotonous, spiritless scene than the House of Commons has latterly presented, it is difficult to conceive. The conduct of public affairs is in the hands of an Administration which no party, in the face of the war, is anxious to displace, but whose leading principles of government, if they are known, none but themselves care for a rush. There is not even the excitement of an anticipated dissolution—for on what question of policy could Lord Palmerston make a successful appeal to the constituencies? But the longest lane has a turning at last—and we are anticipating temporary resuscitation, at least, from the discussion of Mr. Milner Gibson's motion on the late Conference at Vienna, and from Mr. Layard's motion on Administrative Reform. The latter gentleman was adroitly offered last Monday night for his debate, when it was certain that half the House of Commons would be listening to the discussion in the House of Lords, and very wisely declined the offer. Lord Palmerston has given Mr. Gibson Monday night next, when a good, and we hope a salutary debate, may be expected, and we are afraid, a poor division.

Before passing on to the actual business of the House, we may as well touch upon the accidental and episodic events of the week, which, by-the-by, are not altogether devoid of interest. Friday night is generally productive of those irregular discussions—discussions, which, however, unpalatable and even inconvenient to the Government, afford a desirable outlet to the pent-up feelings of different sections of the House. It is usually the business of the Secretary to the Treasury to move, on Friday, "that the House at its rising do adjourn to Monday next." But any member has a right to make it, and, of course, to speak on it. Accordingly, whenever there exists a disposition to ventilate a subject which cannot be appropriately reduced to a formal motion, nor condensed into a Ministerial interpellation, it is ordinarily broached when this question is put to the House. On Friday last, Ministers themselves took advantage of the opportunity, the use of which they condemn in others. In the first place, Mr. Horsman set himself to vindicate the accuracy of the version given in the Blue Book of the evidence collected by the Maynooth Commission. He bore rather unmercifully upon Mr. Spooner, and raised a laugh at the honourable member's aptitude to discover "mares' nests," but was compelled to make a damaging admission, that the attribution of territorial titles to Roman Catholic prelates in the report of the evidence, had resulted from oversight. Mr. Spooner gave a *résumé* of his speech on the Maynooth question, of which we are compelled to confess that the animation of the speaker was the chief feature of interest.

This matter disposed of, a subject of more immediate importance was brought before the House. Major Reed, member for Windsor, but recently elected, and having no standing in the House, had put upon the notice-paper an intimation that, on the motion of adjournment, he should call the attention of the House to the highly critical position of public affairs, the increasing anxiety and dissatisfaction of all classes of society, and the expediency of anticipating popular demon-

strations by Ministers themselves inaugurating reforms in various branches of the public service. What may have been the real object of the honourable and gallant member, and whether his motion originated in a mistaken estimate of his own position, or was suggested to him by a more wily head, we cannot presume to say—but the obvious effect of it was to break the force of Lord Ellenborough's promised motion in the House of Lords, and of Mr. Layard's in the House of Commons. The trick, if it may be justly so described, excited considerable impatience, and when Mr. French suggested the propriety of postponing the subject until after the more regular and important discussion anticipated on Mr. Layard's motion, the predominant feeling was unmistakably evinced. Major Reed, however, did not take the hint; but made a brief and wretched speech, which served the object for which it seemed intended, of calling up Lord Palmerston. The Premier, after patting the honourable and gallant member on the back, entered, quite unexpectedly to the House, upon an elaborate statement of what the Government had done, were doing, and were about to do, in the way of reform, especially in the military departments of the public service, and wound up with a peroration of clap-trap, which would not have misbecome what Carlyle calls "the stump orator." He was followed by Mr. Disraeli, who was particularly happy in criticising the extraordinary circumstances under which the discussion had been got up, and who pointed out that all which the Government had yet done, or even promised to do, was to carry into effect at the last moment, and under extreme pressure, recommendations which had been urged for many years past. But Lord Palmerston's object was gained. He had taken the wind out of the sails of Administrative Reformers. How long he will enjoy his advantage, time will show.

Mr. Heywood's bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister, came under renewed discussion on Wednesday last, when the second reading was carried by a majority of eight only. The ecclesiastical element of the House put forth all its strength against the bill. Sir W. Heathcote, Mr. Napier, Mr. Roundel Palmer, and Mr. Gladstone, came out strong on the ground of Church canons, and on the controverted text in Leviticus, and argued as if the bill, if passed, would sap the foundations of morality. Mr. Phinn, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Cobden, spoke well in favour of the bill, which, it is evident, will be hotly contested in all its stages, and which, at last, the bishops will strangle.

The motion of Sir Erskine Perry, looking towards an amalgamation of the army of the East Indian Company with the Royal army led to but a dull debate, and one, moreover, which did not further the object of the honourable mover. Sir Erskine, able man as he is, failed in his attempt to substantiate his case, and was but loosely supported by General Evans and Mr. Otway, who seemed to speak under the disheartening consciousness that the case had already broken down. Sir James Hogg, and Mr. Vernon Smith, were the main opponents of the motion, which, on a division, was lost by a majority against it of 109.

Of the remaining business of the House, we have nothing to say, except just to notice the discussion on the third reading of the Newspaper Stamp Repeal Bill. The adjourned debate on the Scotch Education Bill, absurdly pushed on at eleven o'clock on Friday night, and the consideration in committee of Sir Benjamin Hall's bill for the Local Management of the Metropolis, call for no further remark, than that both took place in very thin houses, and appeared to excite very limited attention. But ament the newspapers' bill, it would be injustice to pass by the able speech of Mr. Maguire, on behalf of justice to the *Times*. We regret that so good a measure is disfigured, as we conceive it to be, by the retention of a compulsory limitation of the size of journals to a certain scale of superficial inches, a limitation which is quite unnecessary, wholly arbitrary, and which operates to the disadvantage of one paper only. It would have been politic and generous, we think, in the leading advocates of the Stamp Repeal to have given all papers complete freedom from fiscal extortion, and we regret that it has not been done. It happens that those who undertook the case of the *Times* in the House of Commons, confounded weight with superficial measurement, and thus gave the Chancellor of the Exchequer an irresistible reply to their application. We regret this the more as the thing has assumed the appearance of special hostility to the *Times*, which we believe does not exist.

HAIR-SPLITTING WITH THE SWORD.

THE perusal of the Vienna protocols and memoranda—so tardily presented to Parliament—has proved even more intensely interesting than we had anticipated. We have gone through the eighty-nine pages in which they are contained as one might go through a covered avenue, from the loopholed walls of which are to be had glimpses

of peaceful strife and pleasant security, but at either end of which is a raging, escapeless sea. But for the foreknowledge of the record on the last page—the record of adjournment *sine die*—we could have given ourselves up from the commencement to the assurance of restored and guaranteed tranquillity. So grave and earnest is the demeanour of the confabulators—so solemn the name to which they repeatedly appeal—so real and rapid their early progress—that, did we not see the end from the beginning, it would seem a sin to doubt, not alone their sincere, but their self-sacrificing desire to accomplish the purpose for which they are assembled. The cause of a failure so lamentable and unexpected, we shall not now conjecture. To describe the steps by which they reached that miserable no-result, and point out its consequences to ourselves, will be a sufficiently melancholy task.

Our starting point need be no more remote than the arrival of M. Drouyn de Lhuys and of Ali Pasha—the introduction of the third of the "four points"—the proffer to Russia of the initiative in its discussion—and the consequent adjournment of the Conference, while the Russian plenipotentiaries referred to their Imperial master. We take it to be a sign of sincere expectation of Russian preparedness with a *bond fide* proposition on this article, that the representatives of the Allies had to ask a further adjournment, when they found that on them must devolve this business. Before adjourning, however, the French plenipotentiary inquired if Russia would consider her sovereign rights infringed by the limitation of her liberty to build ships in the Black Sea. Prince Gortschakoff replied in the affirmative. Thereupon Lord John Russell made an infelicitous application of his stock of precedents—instancing the case of Louis the Fourteenth to the demolition of Dunkirk, and of our own concessions to the United States. With equal truth and spirit, the Prince retorted that Russia had not experienced the reverses experienced by France and England in the wars alluded to. On re-assembling, M. Drouyn de Lhuys presented a string of interpretative articles—printed at length in another column—one of which embodied the condition which the Russians had already declared they could not accept, namely, the limitation of the two Black Sea Powers to the maintenance of four frigates each, with lighter vessels in proportion, within those waters. The first article—corrected by the Turkish Minister with a very delicate perception of varying shades in verbal colouring—was as follows:—

The contracting Powers wishing to manifest the importance which they attach to the participation of the Ottoman empire in the advantages of the system established by public law between the different European states, declare that they consider that empire as forming, henceforward, an integral part of that system, and mutually undertake to respect its territorial integrity and independence as an essential condition of the general equilibrium.

To this the representatives of France and England gave their unreserved adhesion; those of Russia assented, except to the pledge of a territorial guarantee. On the third article, they expressed a preference for a direct understanding between the plenipotentiaries of the Courts of St. Petersburg and Constantinople—which M. Drouyn de Lhuys also approved—and requested twenty-four hours' consideration. At the expiration of that time, Prince Gortschakoff positively declined both the territorial guarantee and the maritime restriction; and presented, in his defence, a lengthened argument and counter-propositions. The argument is certainly one of the ablest state papers produced in the course of the whole controversy; and, whatever the value of its professions, some of the principles which it enunciates are worthy of a nation in the vanguard of civilisation and Christianity. Conceding that the maritime inferiority of Turkey results neither from natural disadvantages (the configuration of her shore being greatly in her favour), nor from her suffering at the hands of Russia, but chiefly from the affairs of Navarino and Egypt, and from the dependent yet isolated position of the Ottoman Power, in relation to the great European family,—and that she is at least in equal danger from the fleets of France and England, already so frequently her chastisers, and so easily capable of direction against her, as from the comparatively feeble resources of Russia in the Euxine,—it further contends that both the preponderance of Russia and the possible hostility of the other Powers, are sufficiently counterbalanced by the formal admission of Turkey within the pale of public law. It acknowledges, moreover, the sovereign right of the Sultan to exclude from the Black Sea vessels of war other than those of Turkey and Russia; but requires that if the Straits be opened to any war flag, in time of peace, the freedom of those waters be extended to the ships of all nations. To this imposing statement, no formal answer appears to have been made, and the oral criticisms of Lord John Russell, were certainly not of a tone favourable to calm discussion. The propositions were not discussed at all; the Ministers of England, France, and

Turkey severally declining even to enter upon the discussion of "fundamental ideas" not contemplated by their instructions. But the sitting of the 21st of April, the last at which Lord John Russell appeared, was not the termination of the Conference. Its members separate with the understanding that they shall come together again at the invitation of any one of their number. Five days later, that invitation is communicated, at the instance of the Russian plenipotentiaries, by the Austrian Minister. Prince Gortschakoff opens the resumed Conference with the remark, that the last proposition had come from them, and that it is they who submit new plans, with the same peaceful object. He then sums up the argument and propositions already submitted, in language that is reported as follows:—

He remarked that the Russian plenipotentiaries have, in common with the other members of the Conference, sanctioned the principle of making the Sublime Porte participate in the advantages of the European concert, and of placing her under the safeguard of the public law of Europe. And lastly, they have engaged, in the name of their Court, to respect the independence and the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire. Can these engagements be characterised as chimeras? One of the reasons for which he declined an active territorial guarantee of the Ottoman Empire, arises from the difficulty of precisely defining its limits. The territorial guarantee once stipulated, would it not be necessary to extend it to the most distant points, as, for instance, Tunis and Aden, and to make any attack directed against either of those territories by one of the contracting Powers a *casus belli*? He declines giving so extended a meaning to the engagement he takes, on the plea that *the blood of Russia belongs to Russia alone*. This does not, however, mean that Russia will confine herself exclusively to good offices. The independence of the Sublime Porte is not only the interest of Europe, but also that of Russia. If it were menaced, Russia would not be the last to defend it, but she reserves to herself the right of judging, when the case occurs, whether or not it be necessary to employ her material resources.

His fresh proposals are two—the confirmation of the principle of closing the Straits in time of peace; and the reservation to the Sultan of the power to open them to the ships of allies, whenever he may judge his interests menaced. To the admirable principle as admirably expressed in the sentence we have italicised, Drouyn de Lhuys had nothing to say but this,—France engages to defend, as well as respect, the integrity of Turkey; the unreasonable declaration of a foregone purpose. Lord Westmorland having said ditto to Lord John Russell, has now to say ditto, ditto. The Turkish plenipotentiaries are shut up from giving an opinion differing from that of France. The remainder of the Conference is little else than a conversation between the Ministers of Russia and Austria, the latter deciding, in metaphor curiously compounded from unrelated arts, that the new propositions may contain the element of a solution, but is not a solution, nor even the basis of a solution.

And so the diplomatists break up, and relegate to the warriors the division of the hair on which they part. To so narrow dimensions have they reduced the question which, a year ago, was nothing less than the alternative of despotism or freedom, the Cossack or Constitutionalism, as the preponderating power in Europe! If there be something infinitely ridiculous in the reduction of so momentous a debate to the difference between a few frigates, more or less, this side or that of the gates of Asia, is there not also the suspicion of infinite wickedness in resuming war,—war that we now know to be murderous, wasteful, incalculably uncertain, and unspeakably cruel,—for the decision of so trumpery a difference? And if it be the root of all our disasters—as all now believe it was—that we narrowed a war of principles into a war of interests, substituting the integrity of Turkey for the freedom of Europe, is it not the bitterest handful of ashes we have yet had to eat, that our enemy can now flaunt himself in the eyes of the world as the most patient and fertile of negotiators—the solitary originator of propositions at once accommodating present strife and guarding the interests of the future?

THE CLIQUE, THE CLASS, AND THE COUNTRY.

THE Earl of Ellenborough, in calling upon his peers to represent to the Sovereign that the disasters of the war have arisen from the employment in its conduct of unfit men, called for a vote of censure on the late and present Governments. As it happens that these Administrations strongly resemble, in their composition, a family party,—a conclave of Gowers, Howards, Cavendishes, and Bedfords,—the resolution was also a vote of censure upon the system of government by clique. It was thus interpreted by the noble earl himself, in refraining from personal criticism upon the appointments the method of selection to which he condemned, and the disastrous results of whose unfitness he powerfully exhibited. It was so understood and repelled by Lord Panmure, and, still more explicitly, by the Earl of Granville. It was essentially a party motion, disguised by popular truisms: a complaint that the India-proof abilities

of the noble mover, and the unsullied patriotism of his friends, had not been enlisted by the Crown in the prosecution of the war. If aught was wanting to the completion of this character, it was furnished by the Earl of Derby, in his categorical attack upon the Aberdeen and Palmerston appointments. The clique that is "out" took advantage of public indignation at the detected incapacity of a class, to assail the clique that is "in."

The manoeuvre was unsuccessful. Only seventy-one members of the British peerage could be found to endorse propositions that, however radical in their strict significance, were harmlessly topical in design. One hundred and eighty-one peers—sixty-six of the number without troubling to hear the debate—voted down a set of platitudes which would have been adopted with indifference by the selectest vestry in the whole country. And their Lordships were quite right—viewing the matter from their own luxurious elevation. It was an act of unconscious treason to their order, on the part of Lords Ellenborough and Derby, to ask their assent to wholesale, irrevocable concessions for but a temporary purpose. As well ask them to pawn their coronets for the purchase of baby-rattles, as ask them to sign away the substantial privileges common to the whole governing class, that a discontented few may regain the baubles of office. For no less a concession is contained in the expression of a "deliberate opinion" in favour of the "selection of men for public employment without regard to anything but the public service." The aristocracy, on any theory of their existence, have a prior claim to all such appointments. The very etymology of their designation requires them to put themselves in possession of all that can be got—for is not "aristocracy" the "rule of the best?" To admit that a Smith or a Jones is of probably equal fitness with a Howard or a Cavendish to hold high office, is to give up the title of those distinguished families to their present privilege as born legislators and social luminaries. It is all very well for a parvenu like Lord Ellenborough—desirous, perhaps, of a step in the peerage, for the easier forgetfulness of his recent elevation—to recall his father's plebeian origin; but Lord Derby is as little disposed as Lord Granville to surrender his connexion with "the old nobility" as a claim to his present distinction. For once again, the peers and the public are at one;—for both agree that it is not against an aristocratic clique only, but against the aristocratic class, that Mr. Layard declaims in his "indiscretion," and the administrative reformers point the finger of warning.

We are anxious, however, that the admirable principle laid down in the last of the Ellenborough resolutions, should have a still wider interpretation. Let not the country delude itself into the flattering belief that either a clique or a class is exclusively to blame. The disease spreads beyond any social distinction or political privilege whatever,—lies deeper than any error in our laws, or even any defect in our constitution. Only a highly corrupt condition of public morality could have produced the sores that blemish and weaken the commonwealth—that make us shameful in the eyes of the world and almost loathsome to ourselves. The destruction of leviathan vessels laden with the winter clothing of our unsheltered army—the miscarriage of every description of supplies, the want of which was cruel suffering and irreparable loss—the systematic conjunction of prodigal expenditure and shiftless misery—the maintenance through the protracted emergencies of war, of machinery inconvenient enough in the easy times of peace—the countless instances of stupidity, carelessness, and even inhumanity, where opposite qualities were required by every consideration of justice and mercy—the still more painful spectacle of industrious good-intent breaking down under a load of uncongenial, ill-defined labours—and, to climax the whole, the arrogance that would browbeat patriotic solicitude, and the levity that alike insults and pains it—all this has a connexion with electoral venality not less certain, if not less remote, than the connexion between a boil upon the skin and impurity in the blood. The voter who bartered his suffrage for the promise of a place, redeemed in due time by the appointment of a blockhead to do the work of a man of talent—the influential constituent who requested the favour which a weak-minded representative sacrificed his independence of an incompetent Ministry to bestow—may each as justly be charged with contributing to the national disaster, as the invalid lord who, from Palermo, governs the Legislature by his nominee in the Commons, or the Executive by his proxy in the Lords. We might even extend the indictment to those nameless and enviable gentlemen who are said to have refused high administrative offices, out of superior regard to their private interests. Until a quite different temper prevails amongst us, there will be only partial justice and inoperative noise in our invectives against family misgovernment and aristocratic mal-administration. We must come to understand that the redress of

political rights—aye, and the acceptance of public service—is a moral obligation, not to be mixed up with an exchange of personal favours, and not to be subordinated to considerations of personal care or profit. The elector summoned to the polling-booth, and the City merchant invited to Downing-street, should go each upon his way, with a proud integrity and a patriotic single-mindedness. Except we, as a people, will act upon this principle, we have sunk from the high estate of our fathers,—the contemporaries of Hampden, and Blake, and the subscribers of the "self-denying ordinance,"—to a depth of degeneracy from which no political leverage can hoist us up.

THE EXEMPLARY DEPARTMENT.

AFTER the confirmation by recent experience of the popular notion, that in the public service everything goes by favour, nothing is more than tolerably well done, and nothing is more deprecatable than a little of the light of publicity, except it be the extra vitality which such light would be sure to impart—it may sound like irony to say that there is one department in which all this is reversed; in which there is room and reward for merit, general efficiency united with zeal for improvement, and with whose working the public are even invited to acquaint themselves. Nevertheless, the statement may be made with sincerity—and the proof is compacted within the covers of a very slender blue-book, "First Report of the Postmaster-General."

The office is of nearly three hundred years' standing; and this first annual account of its doings, is rendered upon its own suggestion—an unmistakable indication of new blood, and of that pride of performance which is rarely seen but in new men. That the Report is signed "Canning," instead of "Rowland Hill," may be proof that the new blood has not quite worked off the old scum; but there will be found no stronger sign of obstruction to its working. Not only is it proposed to lay before Parliament a periodical account of the operation and progress of the postal service—in the place of that piecemeal information which has hitherto been rendered on demand—but pains are taken to show what the department has failed to accomplish, and why; for what it is responsible, and for what not responsible; how it can be aided, and how it has been sometimes recklessly blamed—in short, the public is taken into the confidence of the Post-office in a way quite exemplary and beautiful to behold.

A Historical Summary of the origin and growth of the British Post-office precedes the report of its latest operations. Like nearly every social benefit, it did not originate with the Government. "As early as the time of Edward the Second, horses were kept by private individuals for hire, so that a messenger might travel post, i.e., by relays." In the fifteenth century, strings of pack-horses plied regularly between the great towns, carrying letters as well as commodities, and that at the modern price, though not for the modern value of a penny as appears from the records of the city of Bristol. Edward the Fourth, when at war with Scotland, established "posts" at intervals of twenty miles, so as to get despatches from Edinburgh to York in three days. An act of Edward the Sixth fixed the charge for post horses impressed by the Crown at a penny a mile. One Randolph is mentioned as Postmaster in the time of Elizabeth, but it is probable that his duties were confined to the despatch of public documents. The first Government establishment of a letter-post was in the reign of James the First, but it was only for the conveyance of foreign letters, and to supersede a private post-office established by the London merchants a hundred years before. In the next reign, "the Postmaster of England for foreign parts" was commanded also to "settle a running post or two" between London and Edinburgh, running day and night, so as to perform the double journey in six days. From this main line, posts to Hull on the one side and Holyhead on the other branched off; and were soon followed by the organisation of conveyances to Colchester and Norwich, Oxford and Bristol, Exeter and Plymouth. The lowest rate of postage was twopence, for any distance under eighty miles; and the highest, eightpence, for any place in Scotland. The private conveyance of letters was also at this time prohibited, except to common known carriers, special messengers, or friends. Large as was the list of exemptions, the prohibition was resented as a great stretch of prerogative, and a committee of the Long Parliament sat upon the subject, but found the new monopoly so profitable both to the Government and the public that the chairman was appointed Chief Postmaster—a weekly conveyance of letters established—the rivalry of the Common Council of London put down—and 5,000*l.* of revenue gained in the excited year 1649. Under the Protectorate, a more perfect organisation was established—legalised after the Restoration—and its revenues (now farmed at 21,000*l.*) settled on the Duke of York and his heirs. The

first London Penny Post was set up (in 1683) by an upholsterer, assigned to a man named Dockwra, denounced as a Jesuit contrivance, and confiscated by Government for the sake of its profits. Dockwra received compensation as its controller, and the institution has not yet entirely disappeared as an independent department of the General Post-office. An attempt was made to establish a halfpenny post, but was suppressed as an invasion of royal privilege. The cross-roads were farmed, and became so lucrative that at the time of their abolition as a separate department, the annual profits amounted to 200,000*l.* The parliamentary privilege of franking was at one time so grossly abused as to deprive the Post-office revenue of 170,000*l.*; and pensions to the amount of 74,000*l.* were fastened upon it; but it nevertheless, paid into the Exchequer double the 36,000*l.* per annum required of it by statute.

The first great reform of the Post-office was proposed by the manager of a Bath theatre—Mr. John Palmer. He observed that tradesmen preferred sending their letters as parcels by the coaches, to the less expensive but much more perilous method of entrusting them to the vagabond post-boys, who dawdled along on sorry hacks, and were so often robbed as to make it probable that they were in league with the robbers. He proposed, therefore, the establishment of the mail coach—swift, punctual, and well guarded. The Post-office people violently opposed the alteration, but Mr. Pitt saw its merits, and put the Bath player in office to carry it out, at a salary of 1,500*l.* a year, and a percentage on the revenue over 240,000*l.* The average speed of the mail was six miles an hour, until about 1818, when Macadam's system of road-making enabled a gradual acceleration to ten miles. In 1830, the mails were first carried by railway. In 1835, Lieut. Waghorn opened up the overland route to India. And in 1837, Mr. Rowland Hill promulgated the scheme which has placed him in the first rank of social benefactors.

There can be scarcely a more striking instance of the degree and kind of blessing which the penny post confers, than in the fact, that since the present arrangement for communicating with the army in the Crimea has been in force—about eight months—more than 282,000 letters have been sent from this country to the seat of war, and more than 325,000 reached this country by the same route; besides the 12,500 that are estimated to have been sent by other conveyances. An average of one letter per man per month is a most gratifying proof of the habit of correspondence that has been formed under the benignant operation of Mr. Hill's plan.

The numerous particulars of abortive or postponed attempts to improve the service—of recent arrangements as honourable to the management as they are beneficial to the service at large—and of points it is desirable the public should rightly understand—we have no room now to note; a triple pressure of matter weighing on our space.

Court, Personal, and Official Notes.

On Thursday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, Princess Alice, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, the Princess Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe, and Prince Victor of Hohenlohe, visited the Polytechnic Institution. The Queen held on Friday afternoon a levee, which was very numerously attended, the presentations alone exceeding five hundred. In the evening the Queen and Prince attended the amateur performance at Drury-lane Theatre for the benefit of the Wellington College. On Saturday morning Her Majesty and his Royal Highness visited the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, accompanied by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg. Prince Victor of Hohenlohe Langenburg left Buckingham Palace on Friday evening to join the fleet in the Black Sea. On Saturday a visit was paid to the Italian Opera. Prince Ernest of Saxe-Coburg arrived in London on Saturday night, and is staying at Buckingham Palace on a visit to Her Majesty.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office, Downing-street, on Saturday afternoon. The Council sat three hours.

Dr. Monro, the celebrated physician in lunacy, is now a victim to the same dreadful malady, and is lying on his deathbed.

Her Majesty will on the 18th inst., present, on the Parade at the Horse Guards, the Crimean medal to officers, non-commissioned officers, and three men of each regiment serving in the east, who have recently returned to this country wounded or invalided.—*United Service Gazette.*

Sir George Head died a few days ago, at his town residence. He was the author of many works upon home, colonial, and foreign matters, particularly in reference to Canada, where he resided for many years. Lately he advanced some sound advice on the subject of the Commissariat for the present war, which, however, was not carried into practice. From the commencement of the career of the present ruler of France as Emperor he was a warm admirer of his policy. He was the elder brother of Sir Francis Head, late Governor of Canada.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Ballot, in favour of, 1.
 Church-rates, for the abolition of, 289.
 Border Marriages (Scotland), for amendment of law, 2.
 Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 6.
 Education Bills, against, 1.
 Education (Scotland) Bill, against, 42.
 for alteration, 31.
 in favour of, 3.
 Intoxicating Liquors, for prohibiting sale of, 1.
 on Lord's-day, 67.
 Marriage Law Amendment Bill, in favour of, 34.
 against, 27.
 Marriages (Scotland) Bill, against, 2.
 Maynooth College Act, for repeal, 93.
 Polish Independence, in favour of, 1.
 Public Health Bill, against, 2.
 for amendment, 1.
 Sale of Beer Act, for repeal, 11.
 Schools (Scotland) Bill, in favour of, 26.
 against, 2.
 for alteration, 3.
 Secretary for Scotland, in favour of, 1.
 Law of Settlement, for amendment, 16.
 Tenants Improvement Compensation (Ireland) Bill, for alteration, 16.
 in favour of, 3.
 Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill, for alteration, 5.
 War with Russia, for inquiry, &c., 2.
 Bills of Exchange, &c., Bill, for alteration, 1.
 Administrative Reform, in favour of, 1.
 Dwelling-houses (Scotland) Bill, in favour of, 1.
 Free-Schools Bill, in favour of, 6.
 Public-houses (Scotland) Act, for extension to Ireland, 6.
 Registration of Births, &c. (Scotland) Bill, against, 2.
 for alteration, 1.
 Stamp Duties (Drafts on Bankers) Bill, against, 10.
 Australia, for amendment of constitution, 2.
 Army Reform, in favour of, 1.
 Criminal Justice Bill, for compensation, 3.
 Friendly Societies Bill, for alteration, 2.
 Metropolis Local Management Bill, for alteration, 2.
 Poor Law (Ireland), for amendment, 1.
 License Law, for alteration, 1.
 Religious Equality, in favour of, 1.
 Stage Carriages, for reduction of duties on, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Victoria Government Bill.
 Alteration in Pleading Bill.
 National Gallery, &c. (Dublin) Bill.
 Rating of Mines Bill.
 Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Marriage Law Amendment Bill.
 Religious Worship Bill.
 Infants Marriage Bill.
 Militia (No. 2) Bill.
 Weights and Measures Bill.
 Sewers (House Drainage) Bill.
 Personal Estates of Intestate Bill.
 Jurisdiction of the Stannary Court Amendment Bill.

BILLS CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Ecclesiastical Property (Ireland) Bill.
 Religious Worship Bill.
 Spirit Duties (Scotland and Ireland) Bill.
 Customs Duties Bill.
 Infants Marriage Bill.
 Sewers (House Drainage) Bill.
 Spirits, &c., Duties (Excise) Bill.
 Metropolis Local Management Bill.
 Burial Grounds (Scotland) Bill.
 Weights and Measures Bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Ecclesiastical Property (Ireland) Bill.
 Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill.
 Registration of Births, &c. (Scotland) Bill.
 Religious Worship Bill.
 Customs Duties Bill.
 Infants Marriage Bill.

DEBATES.

SCOTCH MARRIAGES.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. HEADLAM moved the second reading of the Marriages (Scotland) Bill. In Scotland there are four modes of contracting marriage, one of them being by simple exchange of consent between the contracting parties. This leads to great evils, especially among the English resident near the Border, by giving facilities for hasty marriages, polygamy, and general immorality. Thus, some persons, both men and women, are married only for a few hours, at a hiring, and remarried to other parties when they find it convenient. He proposed to deal with the evil by rendering the persons who celebrate these marriages liable to a fine of ten pounds or three months' imprisonment for the first offence, for the second twenty pounds or six months' imprisonment; and moderate penalties on the parties contracting the marriage.

The LORD ADVOCATE admitted the existence of the evil, and the benefit that would arise from a suppression of these irregular, clandestine, and unrecorded marriages. But he thought the bill was open to the objection that it would only operate against the poor.

The evil was generally admitted in the course of the debate that ensued; but the bill met with scant approval. It was suggested that the Government should deal with the subject comprehensively. Mr. ELLIOT moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months; and on a division this amendment was carried by 143 to 40.

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.

The debate on the second reading of the Marriage Law Amendment Bill was resumed by Sir W. HEATHCOTE, who believed that the Scriptural authority against marriage within the contemplated degrees of affinity was undoubted, and argued that if any doubt existed, it should be resolved in favour of the existing law. Mr. PHINX supported the bill, urging, among other arguments, that marriage had ceased to be considered a question appertaining only to the ecclesiastical law. Mr. R. PALMER apprehended that the measure would sap the foundations of morality in the country. It contravened, moreover, as he contended, the decision of the learned divines by whom the Thirty-nine Articles of the English Church were framed. Mr. LOWE defended the measure, which was condemned by Mr. GLADSTONE, who required that those who contest the construction of Divine laws on principles

that make everything doubtful, should state a clear and definite principle on which they proceed, from which it might be known, not why this bill is asked for, but, when that is granted, how they were to stand with regard to that which remained. Mr. COBURN replied to the argument that if the law should be altered because it is broken, so the law of bigamy and adultery should be altered, by showing that the cases are not similar; because, while bigamy is a felony, and punished as such, the marriage with a deceased wife's sister is not visited with any public censure whatever. In fact, public opinion sanctions the evasion of the law as it stands, and would revolt against any attempt to enforce it. Mr. HERWOOD, in reply to Mr. Gladstone's challenge, said, "The bill is founded upon the principle of expediency, and was introduced to accommodate the prevailing public opinion of the day;" a statement that called forth both cheering and laughter.

The House divided on the second reading—Ayes, 165; Noes, 157; majority for the second reading, 8.

The opponents of the bill loudly hailed the announcement of this narrow majority.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

On Thursday, Mr. BRIGHT inquired whether any proposition had been submitted by the Austrian Government since the 26th April; and if so, whether it would be laid before the House; and whether it was to be understood that the negotiations were terminated. "I ask the latter question," he remarked, "because I should not wish to bring forward any motion on the subject of the negotiations if I thought that they were not absolutely terminated."

Lord PALMERSTON stated that there have been no written proposals made by the Austrian Government since the 26th April.

There have been verbal communications between the Austrian Government and the Governments of England and France, and also between the French Government and the English Government; but I am sure the honourable member and the House will feel that, considering the state in which the relations of the three Governments are, it would not be for the public interest to give detailed explanations of those communications. With respect to the question whether negotiations are entirely broken off, my answer must be the same as that I gave on a former evening, namely, that the elements of conference permanently exist in Vienna, there being in that capital the representatives of the British, French, Turkish, Russian, and, of course, Austrian Governments. If, therefore, at any time any proposition should be made by Russia, or by Austria on behalf of Russia, which might appear to offer a fair prospect of prosecuting negotiations to a successful issue, there are means and elements in Vienna for resuming the negotiations.

Mr. BRIGHT further pressed the question, whether the matter was in a state that left the House free to discuss the subject without prejudice to the public service?

Lord PALMERSTON replied, that Mr. Bright must use his own discretion. He could "imagine public inconvenience arising from Government being compelled, in the present state of things, to enter into a detailed discussion of what proposals have been made, of what objections had been urged to those proposals, of what proposals might be made, and what objections might be taken to such proposals. Of course, I cannot pretend to dictate to any honourable member the course he should pursue."

On Thursday night, Earl GREY gave notice that he would move the following resolution on Monday, the 21st instant:—

That a humble address be presented to Her Majesty, to thank Her Majesty for having ordered the protocols of the recent negotiations at Vienna to be laid before us; to inform Her Majesty, that this House deeply deploras the failure of the attempt to put an end by these negotiations to the calamities of the war in which the country is now engaged; and to express our opinion that the proposals of Russia were such as to afford a fair prospect of concluding a peace by which all the original objects of the war might have been gained, and by which Her Majesty and her Allies might have obtained all the advantages which can reasonably be demanded from Russia.

On Friday, Mr. MILNER GIBSON gave notice that he should, on the earliest day afforded by Government, move a resolution similar in substance to that which Earl Grey had placed on the notice-paper of the Upper House; but with a variation of terms in the conclusion—... "to express to Her Majesty that it is the opinion of this House that the propositions made by the Government of Russia for giving effect to the principle of the same third article contain elements for a renewed negotiation, and may offer the means of obtaining an honourable and satisfactory peace."

On Monday, Mr. MILNER GIBSON inquired whether some early day could be fixed for the discussion of the many questions suggested by the papers lately presented to the Legislature respecting the proceedings at the Vienna Conference. Mr. LAYARD took the opportunity of referring to the resolutions, of which he had himself given notice, urging a similar request for an early debate thereon. Lord PALMERSTON submitted that the forms of the House afforded sufficient opportunities for members who had questions to bring forward, while the Government nights that remained open before the Whitsuntide recess were already occupied with public business.

As for the honourable member for Aylesbury (Mr. Layard) he must remind him, that he offered him that day. (Laughter.) The honourable member did not accept that offer, and an offer once refused could not be renewed. (Renewed laughter.) He could not postpone public business for motions.

Mr. DISRAELI observed that, according to invariable precedent, the Minister of the day had always considered it his duty to invite attention to any negotiations for peace which had been undertaken by the Government and terminated without result. He demanded whether the example would not be followed by the Ministry? Lord PALMERSTON gave some negative intimation on this point. He subsequently offered to give priority on Monday next to Mr. Milner Gibson's motion respecting the Vienna conferences.

GOVERNMENT OF THE METROPOLIS.

On Monday, Sir B. HALL, in moving that the House should go into committee on the Metropolis Local Management Bill, explained the nature of certain modifications which he proposed to introduce in Hobhouse's Act, with the view of better adapting that statute to incorporation in his bill. Lord EBBINGTON moved as an amendment that the committee of the bill should be postponed until the House had decided respecting the suggested alterations in Hobhouse's Act. After a short conversation, this amendment was withdrawn; and a second proposition, brought forward by Mr. Mackinnon, for referring the bill to a select committee, was negatived upon a division by a majority of 131 to 8—123.

The House went into committee on the bill and passed several clauses, after a very prolonged discussion.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

Sir ERSKINE PERRY brought forward, on Thursday, his announced motion for the appointment of a Select Committee "to consider and inquire how the Army of India might be made most available for war in Europe; and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken, if it should be deemed expedient to constitute the Army of the East Indian Company a Royal Army." The motion, he said, was essentially one for inquiry. If the war continue, it is to the Indian Army that we must look for reinforcements; and unless there are insuperable difficulties in the way, we must avail ourselves of its resources. He had taken some pains to ascertain the strength of the Indian Army; but he could not pledge himself as to the accuracy of his estimate. According to the returns laid before the Committee of 1853, the army in India, including the Queen's troops, amounted to 289,329 men; among whom were about 30,000 European troops belonging to the Queen's service—cavalry and infantry of the line—and 20,000 European troops in the Company's service, of every arm, except cavalry. In addition to these, there were the contingents supplied by native princes, amounting to 36,000 men, and a police force of 25,000 men, with a military organisation and extremely efficient, making a total of 349,855 men. There were also thirty-five battalions of militia, with three officers each, amounting to 24,000; which, with the troops belonging to native princes, such as the King of Oude, would raise the whole to somewhere about the number of 400,000 men, as stated by Sir Charles Napier. If to these were added the regular forces of her Majesty, that would give a British army, of the services of which the country had a right to dispose, amounting to 457,000 men, with 12,000 officers, and maintained at an expense of 20,598,000*l.* The army of India is divided into three distinct armies; but the whole is under the control of the civil power. Now, they might easily have had from India 25,000 Europeans of all arms to operate in the Crimea, and 25,000 to operate in Georgia. War in Turkey is similar to war in India, where there are no roads, where the army carries its own provisions, and relies on its own means of transport. Unfortunately, it is now too late to dispatch such a force from India this season, because the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean are untraversable; but it might be made ready for next year. But the corps to which he referred cannot be employed with effect unless the officers belonging to the Queen's and Company's service be placed on an equality. Until a complete amalgamation take place, no effectual improvement can be made in the military training and staff education of the Queen's officers.

Sir DE LACY EVANS seconded the motion; and at a later stage supported it by a speech.

The chief opponents of the proposition were Sir James Weir Hogg and Mr. Vernon Smith. The main objections offered were—that a Select Committee was not the proper tribunal to investigate the subjects referred to in the resolution; that the scheme of amalgamation would not work; and that the change is not desired but opposed by the officers of the Indian army. What troops can be spared from India, consistently with the safety of our Indian possessions, can be determined by her Majesty's Government, and the Governor-General alone. The different constitutions of the two armies—the Queen's having a system of promotion by purchase and of exchange, the Company's a system of nomination and a rigid rule of seniority—render amalgamation absolutely impracticable. The Indian army must be local; subordinate to the civil power, and officered by English officers, trained for the duty from their youth. The Sepoys dread changes, and might mutiny, as they have mutinied before, if commanded by regimental Queen's officers transferred to the service. Sir JAMES HOGG made out a case, with much detail, to show the injustice of excluding Indian officers from the chief commands in the Presidencies, and even divisional commands in war. Assistance must be sought everywhere to carry on the war; whether he belong to the Queen's service or the Company's service, the best man should be placed in command; but, in our anxiety to carry on the war in the Crimea, we must not neglect every other portion of our empire. Mr. VERNON SMITH claimed the authority of Lord Grenville and Lord Wellesley as against amalgamation, not for it; and added the names of Mountstuart Elphinstone, Sir Jasper Nicholls, General Scott, and Sir Lionel Smith on the same side. Practically, the Crown has the power of commanding the services of Indian officers, without amalgamating the two armies. In the course of his speech Mr. Vernon Smith referred to the memorandum recently issued at his suggestion, and described its effect.

The motion was also supported by Mr. OTWAY, and Mr. JOHN MACGREGOR; and opposed by Colonel DUNKE, Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE, and Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR.

On a division, it was negatived by 171 to 62.

PROPOSED GOVERNMENTAL REFORMS.

Major Reed had given notice of a motion on the state of public affairs; and, on Friday, on the motion for adjourning to Monday, Mr. French, looking upon Major Reed's resolution as similar to Mr. Layard's, submitted that the motion should be postponed. Major REED, however, declined to accede to this request, and reminding Lord Palmerston of the great expectations formed of him when he took office, briefly called the attention of the Government to "the highly critical position of public affairs, and to the increasing anxiety and dissatisfaction which at present pervade all classes of society." He impressed upon her Majesty's Government "the wisdom of immediately anticipating those consequences which are certain to arise from continual popular demonstrations, by at once introducing such reforms in every branch of the state as are consonant with the intelligence of the age and the just demands of the people." He would not further trespass on the time of the House, but he would address the noble lord in the words of the poet Milton—

"Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen!"

Lord PALMERSTON rose. It was true, he said, that public expectation had overrun the bounds of reasonable and practicable execution when he was called upon to form a Government. In selecting his colleagues he was not actuated by a regard for rank, private partiality, or family influence; but by a desire to form a strong and efficient Government. It was said he should have selected a Government of persons employed in commercial affairs: the reply to that was, that persons so employed would not abandon their pursuits for the precarious situation of public office. Thus, Mr. Thomas Baring had declined to be Lord Derby's Chancellor of the Exchequer; and in like manner Mr. Samuel Laing declined an office tendered by Lord Palmerston in the late reconstruction of the Ministry.

But it was asked, what has been done? what is going to be done? Considerable improvements are required in many departments; but much has been done. "The army in the Crimea is now, by universal consent, in as perfect a condition as any British army ever was." To show what has been done, he alluded to the placing of the Commissariat under the Treasury; the formation of the Land Transport Corps, the remodelling of the Medical Department, now in progress; the Sanitary Commission to the hospitals and the camp; the reorganisation of the Naval Transport—all of them measures attended with complete success. Then he came to what is going to be done; and described the proposed mode of dealing with the Ordnance Department. In the first place, it is intended to remodel the corps of Ordnance, and to abolish the office of Master-General. The Board of Ordnance will be abolished as a separate establishment. The military part of the Ordnance will be placed under the Commander-in-Chief; to whom the discipline of the Artillery will be transferred. The civil department will also be placed under the Secretary for War. The object has been to centralise—to give unity of direction in all matters in which unity is possible—to bring all the military departments of the army under one supreme directing control. Therefore, the provision of stores, the manufacturing of all those things which the Ordnance manufacture—the manufacture of arms, of cannon, and of ammunition—everything connected with the construction of fortifications and barracks—in fact, all the civil business of the Ordnance, will be placed under the distinct control of the Secretary for War. He will, of course, have under him separate subordinate heads for the different branches of the Ordnance service. The consequence will be, that the Commissariat Department, the Medical Department, the Department of Accounts, and the Ordnance Department, will come under the immediate control of the Minister for War. The great object of the Government is to render all the branches of the public service as efficient as they can be made, and to infuse into that service the utmost energy; and delay must not be ascribed to slackness or apathy, but to a desire that what is done should be the best that can be devised. In conclusion he said—

Sir, we are engaged in a great struggle. It is not now simply a question of conditions; it is not simply a question of those points which have been lately discussed; but all Europe—all the world—the whole human race have their eyes fixed upon the contest now going on. England and France, two great powers, are on the one side, and Russia, a gigantic and colossal power, on the other; and, depend upon it, the issue of the contest involves not only a question of arrangement or condition, but on the issue of that contest depends whether England and France shall continue to hold the high position which they have hitherto held among the nations of the world, or whether we and France shall sink down to the condition of inferior and second-rate states, and whether the enemy with whom we are contending shall henceforward be the dictator and dominant power of the world.

Mr. DISRAELI, with some pleasantry as well as point, commented on Lord Palmerston's tactics in producing such an important statement without notice, on the incidental motion for adjournment; and he hinted at an understanding between the Premier and Major Reed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved the resolutions which he had placed on the notice paper of the House. The existing position of the country, he observed, was this—war had lasted for more than a year. The whole military and naval strength had been arrayed for its prosecution. No failure of spirit or valour could be laid to the charge of our soldiers or our seamen. Nevertheless, the military operations had been attended with unparalleled sufferings, had been surrounded by many disasters, and crowned with no substantial success. In seeking the causes of these results, the noble lord adverted to the singular torpor which seemed to pervade both branches of the Legislature since the session opened, and then proceeded to trace the unfortunate consequence to its personal

causes, finding the latter in the incompetence of the present Prime Minister and his colleagues. The maxim that merit should be the only passport to office, formed, he contended, the only sound principle of government, but nevertheless subjected a Minister to many dangers from the antagonism and jealousy of influential personages, unless he was perpetually supported by public opinion. Confessing, at the same time, his apprehensions at the swell of popular impulses without the walls of Parliament, he invited their lordships to neutralise, by leading and guiding, the general movement of the public, and give a constitutional expression to the general opinion that the public servants should be selected with a single eye to their capacity for performing public services. Descending to particulars, as exemplifying the negligences and ignorances of the Ministry, he remarked that the enlistment of 16,000 militia had been lost by a parsimonious attempt to save 50,000*l.* or 60,000*l.*; that no means of moving the troops were provided until a few weeks ago; that the new War Ministry was organised upon a most insufficient scale; that the active strength of the Allied armies was paralysed by the division of command; and the services of the Baltic fleet rendered nugatory by the non-supply of soldiers and gunboats; that the Asiatic field for operations against Russia had been neglected; and that an ill-judged and ill-timed expedition was undertaken in the Crimea, which he characterised as a blunder alike in diplomacy and in war. The present position of the besieging army placed it in itself in beleaguement between the Russian entrenchments and the sea, unable to move in the field, hopeless of success against Sebastopol. For the continual disasters and eventual failure he considered the home Government primarily guilty, and described the various particulars in which they had proved remiss and incapable. The fault, he argued, did not lie so much with the system of government as the men, observing that the entanglements of a bad system were the recognised excuse of convicted mediocrity. For his own part, he supported Administrative Reform for the same reason that he had opposed the old Reform Bill, because he wished to see the ablest men brought into public positions. Their lordships themselves, he remarked, enjoyed the hereditary rank which their ancestors had won, not by favour but by fitness, and he called upon them, at a great crisis, to acknowledge and advocate the great principle to which they owed their own existence, and to place themselves in the vanguard of public opinion.

Lord PANMURE contended that the resolutions now presented commenced with truisms and platitudes, and proceeded to make accusations in which the persons and the acts impugned were but indistinctly portrayed. Considering the propositions, however, as implying a censure on the Government, he met them with a most distinct denial, and should propose a direct negative to the motion of the noble earl. In justification of the Ministerial conduct, he urged the forty years' continuance of peace, the consequent insufficiency of our armaments, and the retrenchments which had reduced the army to a mere series of detached and isolated regiments. Declaring that the Government had laboured indefatigably and successfully to supply all requirements, the Secretary for War adverted in detail to the successive operations of last year's campaign, and the condition of the troops in the field and the camp, arguing that in all cases the best available course had been followed, and whatever evils arose were remedied at the earliest possible moment. The public interest forbade him from citing documents in his possession, but he ventured to assure the House that since February last the British troops had been gradually improving in health, strength, and efficiency, and were now unmatched in every quality which rendered an army fit for action, and formidable against the enemy. On the general allegation that inefficient functionaries were advanced to high office, he (Lord Panmure) challenged attack, remarking that no single instance had been cited to substantiate the charge. Only three months had elapsed since the country passed through a prolonged ministerial crisis; and true patriotism, he urged, now pointed to a course which should allay public anxiety, strengthen the hands of the Government, and give to the general and the army increased confidence in their constitutional directors.

The Earl of HARDWICKE commented at considerable length upon the management of the naval share in the past operations, especially in relation to the transport of troops and stores and the establishment of blockades.

The Earl of ELGIN, on recently returning from public service abroad some time ago, had offered his independent support to Lord Palmerston's Administration, and believed that nothing had occurred since to warrant the withdrawal of his confidence. The Government had done much, and prepared plans for more, in the way of Administrative Reform. A marked improvement was visible in the condition of the army abroad and the working of the departments at home.

After a few words from the Earl of WINCHELSEA, Earl GRANVILLE remarked upon the vagueness of the resolutions that were offered for their adoption, and the antagonism between the various arguments by which they were supported on different hands. Rebuking the charge of favouritism in the selection of public functionaries, he adduced instances showing on one hand, that men of proved business talent could not be tempted to take office, and on the other, that commercial companies were bidding high for real talent, even within the circles of aristocratic society. Reverting to the motion before the House, he objected that it spread abroad an exaggerated idea of our disappointments and disasters. If adopted, it might produce very serious consequences in France, where the opposition party, who advocated peace and con-

demned the English alliance, were gradually acquiring increased numbers and influence.

The Earl of DERBY would not allow the Ministers who had misconducted the war to shelter themselves behind the gallantry of the armies who fought so nobly in the field. Respecting the conduct of the troops and their commander, he had nothing but the sincerest admiration to express, observing that he had himself selected Lord Raglan for high military office before the war broke out. The country was almost unanimous in believing the war to be just and righteous, the noble earl proceeded to examine in detail the practical measures by which the late and present Government had endeavoured to prosecute hostilities. The Crimean expedition he pronounced an utter and disgraceful blunder, being undertaken without due information or preparation, at the wrong time, in the wrong manner, and with the result of placing our army in a position where it was rather besieged than besieging, and whence it could neither advance nor retreat with safety. Lord Derby then recapitulated the sufferings and losses attendant upon the winter campaign, attributing them to the negligence, incapacity, and want of foresight exhibited in all the departments of administration. In all, he urged, there was proof positive that fitting men were not in the fitting places, and pointed, as eminent instances of unfitness, to the appointments of the Duke of Newcastle as Secretary for War, and of Mr. Monsell as Clerk of the Ordnance. Repudiating all concert with Mr. Layard, the noble earl confessed that in advocating the present motion the party with whom he acted considered themselves as the exponents of the just and deeply-seated dissatisfaction with the order of things which prevailed among the great mass of the community. Correcting, however, some misapprehensions which he believed to be entertained by the public on the subject of administrative reform, he observed that in the subordinate departments of office routine was essential to regular working, and with regard to the higher functionaries the choice of a Prime Minister was exceedingly limited, between the constitutional maxim which compelled the chief Ministers of State to be also members of Parliament, and the party divisions which restricted to a session of either House the members in whom the chief of a Cabinet could place confidence enough to make them his colleagues. As a nursery for statesmen he declared the House of Commons had become much deteriorated since the passing of the Reform Bill. Whenever talent was developed in that assembly he felt assured that it was eagerly sought out and afforded all opportunities for rendering services to the public. He then referred to the changes in the military departments indicated in recent ministerial speeches, and, while questioning their expediency in some respects, attributed the newly-developed energies of the Government to heavy pressure which they were experiencing both within and without the walls of Parliament. Declaring, for his own part, that he should regret to find, as the result of that night's debate, the responsibility of forming an Administration devolving upon himself, he acknowledged at the same time, that circumstances had much changed since he formerly felt compelled to abandon such a task. Among these changes Lord Derby mentioned the termination of the Vienna negotiations and the extinction of Lord Palmerston's excessive popularity.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE reviewed the events of the last few months as illustrating the administration of his own department while he held office. On many points he contended that censure had been founded upon exaggerated statements, or directed against eventualities which no provision could have forestalled.

The Marquis of CLANICARDE opposed the motion believing it to be inexpedient and inopportune.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY also considered it his duty to support the Government against an attack which he believed to be unjust, and apprehended that it would disparage the British system of administration in the eyes of foreigners.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied to the arguments and sarcasms of Lord Derby, and proceeded to defend the conduct both of the present and late Administrations. He exhorted the House to negative the resolutions now presented; among other reasons because they would countenance the opinion throughout Europe that our arms had been defeated. To dispel this idea he read an authentic return of the Russian loss, showing that at the date of the late Emperor's death, 247,000 of his troops had been reported as dead or *hors de combat*. Every step and suggestion in the course of our own military proceedings, he added, had received the cordial and entire concurrence of our French ally.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH briefly replied, and their Lordships divided on the motion—

Contents 71
Non-Contents 181—110

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill is postponed till after Whitsuntide.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to Mr. Labouchere, said that the bill for reforming the Corporation of London had been prepared, and would be printed in the present week.

On the order of the day for going into committee upon the Education (Scotland) Bill, on Thursday, Mr. C. BRUCE objected to proceeding with the measure at so late an hour (a quarter to eleven o'clock), and moved that the debate be adjourned. After an hour lost in discussing the motion for adjournment, it was negatived by 165 to 119. Mr. Bruce then moved, that it be an instruction to the committee to divide the bill into two parts; explaining his object to be, the maintenance of the existing parochial schools in connexion with the Established Church. The Earl of Dalkeith then moved the adjournment of the debate, which (it

being then half-past twelve o'clock) was agreed to. The bill comes on again on Friday.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, on Thursday, moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable Her Majesty to assent to a bill, as amended, of the Legislature of Victoria, "to establish a constitution in and for the colony of Victoria." He proposed to take generally the act of the Legislature of Victoria as far as concerned its own constitution, but to omit certain proposals which would limit the power vested in the Crown of disallowing the acts passed by the colonies. The bill, therefore, although it would certainly not contain all that the Legislature of Victoria had proposed, would not contain anything to which it had not given its assent, and thus, in his opinion, would be within the powers given by Parliament to the Australian Colonies to form constitutions for themselves.

Mr. LOWE, Mr. ADDERLY, and Mr. G. BUTT objected to the introduction of the bill, as a departure from the proper form, which requires that a bill from the Colonies should either be accepted or rejected. This is not the bill of the Colonial Legislature, but a new bill altogether. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. HORSMAN, on Friday, in reply to Colonel GREVILLE, offered explanations respecting the charges brought by Mr. Spooner touching the trustworthiness of the Maynooth Report; and showed, that although the evidence had been in the hands of Dr. Cullen, it had not been in any way tampered with. He offered further inquiry to Mr. Spooner, if he wished it. Mr. SPOONER readily accepted the offer. Replying to the Earl of WINCHELSEA, on Monday, Lord HARROWBY explained the reasons which brought him to the conclusion that the evidence taken before the Maynooth Inquiry Commissioners had been published in their report, without alterations of any description.

In reply to Lord HOTHAM, Lord PALMERSTON said that he had no doubt the Government will be able to give the despatch of Lord Raglan in answer to the despatch read by the Duke of Newcastle to the Sebastopol Committee, "in such a shape as will completely answer the object of the Committee without inflicting any injury upon Lord Raglan."

Mr. LOCKE KING moved a resolution, declaring that a new, complete, and systematic edition of the statutes now in force, omitting statutes repealed and obsolete, would be more useful than the present statute book; and proposing that a Select Committee should be appointed to inquire into the best mode of making such new edition. After some debate, the motion was negatived by 47 to 38.

In the Lords, on Friday, there was a conversation between Lord ST. LEONARDS and the LORD CHANCELLOR respecting several law bills before the House of Commons; in the course of which Lord ST. LEONARDS intimated his hostility to the retrospective compensation clause in the Tenant Right Bill, and to the transfer of the powers of the Encumbered Estates Court to the Court of Chancery. On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, a bill to provide for the cheaper and more expeditious granting of powers hitherto obtainable only through special acts of Parliament was read a first time.

The adjourned debate on the third reading of the Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill was resumed on Friday, by Mr. PACKE, who entered his protest against the measure, urging chiefly the unjust distinction which it would create to the disadvantage of the dwellers in rural districts. Mr. MAGUIRE declared that the bill legalised plunder, and was directed specially against particular journals. Mr. BARROW, Mr. M. CHAMBERS, and Mr. BENTINCK having spoken, the House divided: For the third reading, 138; against it, 60; majority, 78. Mr. NAPIER, in the absence of Mr. Whiteside, moved a clause admitting to conveyance at a penny postage all printed sheets that should not exceed six ounces in weight. The clause was opposed by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, and negatived without a division. The bill then passed. It was read a first time in the Lords on Monday.

On the motion for the second reading of the Stamp Duties (Drafts on Bankers) Bill, on Friday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that since the introduction of the proposition, he had received strong representations touching its consequences, especially as regarded the check it would impose upon the minor class of payments and depositors. He did not intend, therefore, to persevere with the measure.

In reply to an appeal from Lord LYNDEHURST for the postponement of the Cambridge University Bill, on Monday, the LORD CHANCELLOR said, he had received a petition, signed by a large number of the members of the University, praying for alterations so extensive that he should have felt it exceedingly difficult to pay proper attention to the subject within the time allowed him, and under these circumstances he felt it impossible to go on with the bill at the time fixed for its discussion. He therefore moved the discharge of the order of the day, and, instead of Tuesday (yesterday) fixed the bill for next Tuesday. The motion was agreed to.

THE SEBASTOPOL INQUIRY.

Mr. Sidney Herbert, late Secretary at War, was examined at length before the Committee on Wednesday and Thursday. With respect to the expedition to the Crimea, he said that the expectation was in favour of a *coup-de-main* and not a long campaign. The troops went into the Crimea in light order; but he had nothing to do with the preparations. When the departments were separated, Mr. Herbert placed himself at the disposal of Lord Aberdeen, with the view of facilitating changes; and subsequently he "undertook a good deal of business, to relieve the Duke of Newcastle, which properly it was not the business of his office to do." After the battle of the Alma, hearing that the hospitals at Scutari had failed, at a time when contradictory

statements were made, Mr. Herbert wrote unofficially to Dr. Menzies, Major Sillery, and Mr. Wreford, urging them to simplify forms and procure what they could on the spot; to provide for the influx of patients, and see that nothing was wanting for their comfort. He also wrote to Lord Stratford urging him to give assistance. He felt that a high military officer should be placed over the hospital, in place of Major Sillery; and such an officer was selected; but in the meantime Lord Raglan had appointed a "good man," Lord William Paulet. Questions were then put with the view of obtaining an opinion respecting Lord Raglan's responsibility in the matter, especially as he had supreme control in the East. But Mr. Herbert stated that Dr. Hall had visited Scutari, by Lord Raglan's directions, and on his return he gave a "flourishing account" of it; so that Lord Raglan could not remonstrate about deficiencies of which he was not aware. With respect to the medical men, Mr. Herbert retained his opinion that as medical men they exerted themselves well, but that as organisers they broke down. All the departments were underhanded; but originally "too much was expected and too little was done." Somebody was to blame certainly; but it is difficult to pitch upon the right man. With respect to the hospital at Smyrna, Mr. Herbert said he should have preferred Sinope. There was a doubt as to the healthiness of Smyrna, and therefore it had not been permanently established, but it is at present working admirably. He explained that in cases where contracts for clothing entered into by the colonels have not expired, the troops continue to be supplied by them. In reply to questions from Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Layard, Mr. Herbert said that, with the exception of one whole week and part of another, he was in town throughout the recess, in constant communication with the Duke of Newcastle, and acting as a "volunteer assistant" to him.

Mr. Wood, Secretary to the Board of Ordnance, examined on Thursday, said that he was not aware of any inconvenience, as regarded the current business of the Board, arising from the absence of Lord Raglan, the Master-General.

Vice-Admiral Dundas was also called on Thursday, and examined at considerable length. He commanded the Mediterranean fleet. On the 8th June he was ordered to Besika Bay; on the 30th October he went on to the Bosphorus, and entered the Black Sea in January. Until the war broke out he was at the orders of the ambassador. After the war broke out he took his orders from the French Admiral, who was his senior officer. Examined with respect to the information supplied to or obtained by him with respect to the strength of the Russian fleet, he said that he was supplied with a very "rough old statement" at first; that when he entered the Black Sea he was not a bit the wiser; that he informed Lord Stratford in July, 1853, that he had a Maltese who could get the information required by going to Sebastopol; but that Lord Stratford interposed difficulties—"something relating to passports." He thought the ambassador ought to have sent that man. He had endeavoured to collect information, but with little success; and he attributed his failure to the vigilance and caution of the Russian Government, and the hostility of the Greeks. About the end of July he first heard of the expedition to the Crimea, and prepared accordingly; but the cholera broke out in the fleet and delayed the sailing of the expedition. All the ships carried troops except seven sail of the line, held in readiness to meet the Russians. It was arranged that the French should have a proportionate number in readiness, but they were compelled to carry French troops. Admiral Dundas seemed much hurt at a statement made by the Duke of Newcastle, that the Admiral had sent "inaccurate" information as to the strength of the enemy in the Crimea; and read letters of his own to Sir James Graham to show that he was right. But the committee did not seem disposed to permit the witness to continue reading confidential letters. One of these, addressed to Sir James Graham, and dated in May, 1854, stated that Sebastopol was a second Gibraltar; that there were 130,000 Russian troops in the Crimea, and 30,000 in the fortress itself, which was further protected by 13 or 14 sail of the line. The fleet could not get near Perekop; and it was impossible to prevent the entrance of Russian troops to the Crimea by the Sea of Azoff, without 4,000 men; and these could not be spared. Asked whether he had sufficient means of transport to convey the necessary equipments of the army, he said that he had not; and to repeated questions, he answered that additional transport could not have been obtained "in time," either by himself or the Ministry at home.

With respect to Balaklava, the only complaint he ever heard was, that the harbour was "a ditch"—that it was "too small." He expressed a high opinion of Admiral Boxer and Captain Christie. Mr. Roebuck put this question: "I want to know whether, if precaution had been taken, you could not have had a sufficient supply of coals. Was there not a want of providence in this matter?"—The witness quickly answered: "No; it was Providence that prevented the wind from blowing in the direction to enable the vessels to bring up the coals. . . . Not twenty steam tugs would have sufficed." In reply to another question, from Sir John Hanmer—"Did the ships sunk by the Russians at the entrance of Sebastopol materially strengthen it against the sea attack?"—he replied, "No, not at all; the fleet could never have entered the harbour of Sebastopol unless the army had got there before it." In parts of his evidence, as that relating to the blockade, and the propriety of the expedition to the Crimea, he was stopped, because it involved statements respecting the French. The evidence would seem to have been taken in a desultory manner; as at one moment Mr. Roebuck, with an expression of despair on his face,

exclaimed that his head was in a perfect state of confusion in regard to the evidence of the gallant admiral.

Friday was devoted to the examination of Lord Hardinge, the Commander-in-Chief at home. After enumerating the military positions he had occupied, and the service he had seen, his lordship gave evidence as to the Ordnance department. He thought there ought to be at the head of it "a man of first-rate ability always at his post, and that it might be of disservice to the public if he were not." Lord Hardinge then went on to define his functions as Commander-in-Chief with reference to the general discipline of the army, its appointments and promotions, at home and in the colonies. In the exercise of these powers, when Government determined on sending out the expedition to the East, he appointed Lord Raglan to be commander of the forces, under the control of the Government of the country. His power as Commander-in-Chief was also exercised in the case of apprehended civil disturbance, like the occasion of the Chartist. The Secretary of State for War had unlimited power at the Horse Guards, and if he objected to his (Lord Hardinge's) appointment of any officer to go to the Crimea, he (Lord Hardinge) should at once give way, and request him either to recommend another man or to make his own selection; and if the demarcations between the Secretary of State for War and the Commander-in-Chief were vague, inconvenient, or indefinite, it would arise from the want on the part of the Secretary of expressing his pleasure with respect to the service to the Commander-in-Chief. His (Lord Hardinge) did not see what advantage was to accrue to the service from the Secretary of State for War having the appointment and promotion of officers—whether the Duke of Newcastle or Lord Palmerston; but advantage he conceived did accrue from the circumstance of the Commander-in-Chief making these appointments and promotions, seeing that it was desirable to keep up a connexion of this kind between the men in the army and the Commander-in-Chief, as a kind of recompense or compliment for the harsh conduct he was occasionally called upon to exercise. In effect, however, as things stood at present, the power of the Secretary of State for War overrode the power of the Commander-in-Chief. He was of opinion that great inconvenience might result if the Commander-in-Chief at home were to correspond with the Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea, as it might clash with the instructions and communications of the Secretary at War and the Cabinet; but he (Lord Hardinge) always gave his opinion on military and strategical matters to the Duke of Newcastle. If the views of the Commander-in-Chief differed from those of the professional persons in the Cabinet, he (Lord Hardinge) gave his views honestly, and there was an end of it; but he saw the instructions that were sent by the Duke of Newcastle to Lord Raglan, and if he thought there was any room for improvement he always made the suggestion; but if the operations connected with the campaign were carried out against his (the Commander-in-Chief's) views, he was not responsible for it. He was not aware that any important despatches from Lord Raglan as to the progress of the war, more particularly of recent date, were not shown him by the Duke of Newcastle. He believed the country was far better prepared now for hostilities than ever it was, both in a naval and military point of view. The artillery is as near perfection as possible, and excites the admiration of the French. In a short time all the army would be armed with the Minié rifle. The land transport corps service was a department quite new to this country, and its management would devolve on the commissary-general, and not on the Commander-in-Chief. The difficulties of the transport service were necessarily greater now than they were in the Peninsula. He considered that nothing could have been more complete than the arrangements for the military operations of the war, particularly regarding cavalry. Lord Hardinge was examined at great length on various points of detail connected with the expedition and management of the army. He had no doubt that Dr. Smith was a very able medical officer, and very anxious for the service, but he knew nothing of the service as a military man. The hospitals were under the command of Lord Raglan, but at the same time he was bound to say that the reports given to him were not as correct as they might have been. Lord Raglan was too far from the spot to attend to their condition himself. Mr. S. Herbert acted quite right in what he did, and he thought the cavalry standard should be reduced and lighter men employed; and he had recommended to Her Majesty a reduction in cavalry, both heavy and light.

Dr. Mapleton, private physician attached to Lord Raglan's staff, then gave evidence: With regard to sick and wounded, every sick man should at once be sent to England if his life was to be saved. Every officer who became sick was compelled to return home. The climate of Turkey was prejudicial to health. The tents used by the army were bad; and not adapted to the purpose.

Sir J. Graham was examined on Monday: After describing his position at the Admiralty and the administrative changes he had suggested there, on the outbreak of the war, he said the naval commander in the Black Sea was responsible for the transport service there. He read extracts from documents describing the formal official appointment of Admiral Boxer, and the instructions he received when he went out to act under Admiral Dundas. The responsibility of affairs in the harbour at Balaklava was entirely under Admiral Dundas, as well as everything relating to the transport on the Black Sea, entirely under his control. Captain Christie, he regretted to say, made two mistakes—one in allowing the Prince to remain at single anchor, and another in ordering a transport with Turkish

troops to come to Balaklava instead of Eupatoria, and for this the Admiralty had ordered him to be tried by a court-martial, and he believed that Captain Christie, in consequence, was almost a broken-hearted man. The admission, or refusal of admission, of the Prince into the harbour, rested entirely with the officer in command of the harbour, and not with Captain Christie. He had instructed Admiral Dundas to provide floating hospitals if necessary; and though the instruction was in a private letter, the admiral, as a man of honour, would not shield himself under that circumstance. He also had furnished Sir E. Lyons, on Admiral Dundas's retirement, with "supreme authority and ample means." It was not true that they had gone to the Crimea without ascertaining the resources of the Russians there: they ascertained that the Russian forces amounted to 70,000 men, and they sent that information to Lord Raglan, with the informant himself. He admitted that the blockade was not satisfactory; but it was a joint operation. "Mr. Layard: I suppose the Greek merchants had some means of knowing the blockade could not be carried out, as they did not suspend their trade?" Sir J. Graham: Is that a question? Mr. Layard: Yes. Sir J. Graham: The honourable member is probably better informed on that point than I am."

Yesterday the Earl of Aberdeen was examined before the committee. He said the Government was first led to believe that war with Russia was imminent three months before the declaration. It had been apprehended for a much longer period. There was great difficulty in procuring information respecting the Russian forces. When the army landed in the Crimea, it was the general belief that Sebastopol would fall by a coup de main. It was found that that was a mistake.—Mr. Layard: Was not that a sufficient ground for calling a Cabinet Council?—The Earl of Aberdeen thought not. The Minister of War was in town, and was perfectly competent to act upon the matter. When orders were sent out in June, the Government, no doubt, supposed that the expedition would sail earlier than September. He believed that there was some delay in consequence of boats, but the delay did not arise from any want of general preparation. The noble earl gave a good deal of evidence respecting the differences which led to Lord John Russell's retirement from the Government. The Government were of opinion that they had sufficient information to warrant immediate operations on the part of the Crimean expedition. They had not always such early information as appeared in the public newspapers. It was the duty of the authorities to send such official information, but in consequence of its not arriving, the Government discredited many of the reports which appeared in the papers. The Government was in a state of ignorance longer than they ought to have been as to the real state of things in the East. He said that the Duke of Newcastle never made such complaints to him of the Commissariat, Ordnance, Medical, and other great departments, as would have induced him to submit them to a Cabinet Council. At ten minutes before two o'clock it was announced that the evidence had closed. The committee will, therefore, hold no more public sittings, but will forthwith proceed to the consideration of their report.

Miscellaneous News.

The New Cattle Market at Islington is to be opened on the 1st June by a Corporation banquet, the cost not to exceed 1,000*l*.

A West-end tradesman is about to send to the Paris Exhibition jewellery of the value of 120,000*l*., including a tiara which has cost 5,000*l*.

The Bank of London, one of the new Joint-Stock Banks lately started, have purchased the Hall of Commerce, in Threadneedle-street.

The Pontypool magistrates have added yet another definition of "a bona fide traveller:" they have decided that one who travels three miles by rail is such a traveller.

A lamentable case of temporary insanity is recorded. Mrs. Gooch, the wife of a tailor in Perry-street, St. Pancras, drowned both herself and her child in a water-butt. The bodies were found by the husband when he returned home from work.

During a thunder-storm that on Friday broke over the Metropolis, lightning struck the cupola of Trinity Church in the Borough, at the moment when the Bishop of Winchester had just concluded the ceremony of confirmation and was about to preach a sermon. Fortunately, little damage was done.

It turns out, as was to be expected, that in addition to the skeleton of Saint Felix the Martyr, sent to the Queen of Spain by the Pope, and to that of the same saint which previously existed in a church in Andalusia, there is also one in the Hermitage of the Virgin, near Manzanara. In presence of these three sets of relics of one and the same saint, the Pope will be respectfully entreated to say which is to be considered the real one.

Misfortune begets some men. Mr. Masters is or was the owner of the Crystal Palace Hotel at Sydenham, which has proved unsuccessful. A short time ago he became a bankrupt. Before he could make up his accounts he was thrown from a gig, and fractured his thigh; recently, while the fracture was healing, he fell down in attempting to get out of bed, and the bone again separated. The Bankruptcy Court, commiserating his misfortunes, has granted extensions of time for filing the accounts.

Three actions have been brought against Lord Clifden, upon acceptances for 3,000*l*., each, given by him to drafts of Mr. Francis Villiers, M. P. for Rochester. The names of the plaintiffs are Wisden, Ford and Clark. Application was made on Thursday to the

Court of Queen's Bench, that the actions should be tried by a common, instead of a special jury. Lord Campbell said, there might be some difficulty in trying them by a common jury; and suggested that they had better be tried at the first sittings next term. Mr. Edward James, on behalf of the plaintiffs, assented to the suggestion.

Ninety-five thousand three hundred and thirty-two persons were married in the last quarter of the year 1854. The number exceeds the average, but is less than that of the corresponding quarter of 1853. The falling off has taken place in London, in the parts of Kent round Maidstone, in Portsmouth, Plymouth, and the sea-ports, which have been affected by the absence of seamen in the war; in Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, Cornwall, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Cumberland, and Westmoreland. The marriages in Manchester and Ashton declined, but in the aggregate the marriages in Lancashire were not below the average. —Registrar-General's Return.

That thieves drive a profitable trade at places of worship is a fact better known perhaps to the pious frequenters of these places than to the public. An illustration of the fact, however, was disclosed on Monday at Guildhall. On the person of a thief committed by Alderman Kennedy, was a list of fashionable chapels. Alderman Kennedy took the novel step of warning the congregations to be on their guard. The "appointments" noted down were—the Weigh House Chapel, St. John's Chapel, Bedford-row; Surrey Chapel, and College-street, St. John's Wood. A boy only ten years old has been committed by the Marylebone magistrate for robbing ladies at the new Baptist Chapel, Regent's-park.

On Monday, a "World's Convention" was held at St. Martin's-hall, under the auspices of Mr. Robert Owen, to inaugurate the millennium. Mr. Owen once more explained the principles which, in his new world, were to secure, "without money and without price, to every man everything the heart could desire in superfluity." At the close of his address, the machine, called "The Devastator"—or rather, a pictorial representation of it, was exhibited, making terrible havoc among the Russians at Sebastopol. A petition to both Houses of Parliament, praying that steps might be taken to carry out Mr. Owen's scheme, was adopted, and the meeting separated. Mr. Owen, on Monday, completed his eighty-sixth year, and, in the course of his address, painted his audience with the prophecy that he should die before another birthday, his mission being nearly fulfilled.

The Etna gun-battery seems to have been wilfully fired. Layton Edward Hopper, a young shipwright was charged before the Thames Police Magistrate, on Wednesday, as the incendiary. Evidence was first given to show the extreme improbability that the fire was accidental; every one had left the ship, there were no signs of fire a short time before the outbreak, and when the flames did appear, they ran along and leapt from place to place as if some inflammable liquid had been daubed about. The direct testimony against Hopper was that of John Coolie, a shipwright employed at Russell's, who was the first to discover the fire; as he ran towards the battery, he saw a man leave the bows, hasten to a kiln, mount a shed, and thus escape from the yard into a garden: he saw the man's face twice, and he firmly believes the fugitive was Hopper. Hopper had been in Mr. Russell's service, but was discharged three weeks ago on account of a dispute about wages. He was remanded.

A large range of buildings, known as the Atlas Iron works, the factory of Messrs. Polglase and Co., fell to the ground a heap of ruins, on Monday afternoon, just as the men, more than 100 in number, had returned from dinner. Though a few escaped unscathed, numbers were much injured in the head, arms, or legs, and were seen being led or carried away, with the blood streaming from cuts and lacerations. Several were conveyed to St. Thomas's Hospital, and it was feared that five were so much injured that recovery was hopeless. The whole of them, however, are going on favourably and expected to recover. It is believed that the fall of the building was owing to the removal, some time ago, of an iron pillar standing on a turned arch, which covered the boiler, and to the shrinking of some temporary wood-work by the great heat of the adjoining furnace. The proprietors are executing a large Government contract for shot and shell.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Follow Jesus. Nisbet and Co.
Anthems and Chants for Public Worship. Ward and Co.
England's Hope. Liverpool: A Neuling.
Life Spiritual. J. Snow.
The Reign of Terror. W. and F. G. Cash.
Creation's Testimony to its God. Longman and Co.
Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty. Ibid.
Geology: its Facts and its Fictions. Houlston and Stoneman.
Modern Papacy. Leeds: J. Heaton and Sons.
Poems, by B. R. Parks. J. Chapman.
Travels in Europe and the East. 2 Vols. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.
Annotated Edition of the English Poets—Chaucer. J. W. Parker and Son.
Who is God in China? J. Bagster and Sons.
The Hero's Canticle. Jackson and Walford.
The Sailor's Prayer Book. J. Snow.
The Missionary's Wife. Ibid.
A Pastor's Sketches. Hamilton and Co.
Suffer Little Children to Come Unto Me. Nelson and Sons.
Thoughts on Life. Partridge and Oakley.
Gunn's Scripture Lessons. Ibid.

Parisian Etiquette. J. F. Shaw.
Apostolical Succession Overthrown. J. Nisbet and Co.
Sharp's Road Book for the Rail. D. Bogue.
Life of Napoleon the Third. Partridge and Oakley.
Living for Appearances. J. Blackwood.
The Victorious End of Faith. S. Bagster and Sons.
Life of Thomas Ellwood. Manchester: J. Harrison and Son.
Library of Biblical Literature. Vol. II. W. Freeman.
Life of Paul the Apostle. Ibid.
Christian Thought on Life. W. Allen.
Come to Jesus. J. Nisbet.
Printing: its Antecedents, &c. Longman and Co.
The Absurdity of Unbelief. Partridge and Oakley.
Summary Outline of the Water Cure. Simpkin and Co.
England's Wane and England's Bane. W. and F. G. Cash.

Gleanings.

Mr. Stratton, father of Tom Thumb, is an inmate of Hartford lunatic asylum.

The Bernal sale has realised 10,000*l*., more than its estimated value.

"Our Friends in Hell" is the title of a new publication the Rev. J. M. Killen, M.A., of Glasgow.

Mrs. Jamieson says, "The most miserable person I ever met in my life had 12,000*l*. a year."

An American editor, speaking of a concert singer, says her voice is delicious, pure as the moonlight, and as tender as a three-shilling shirt.

Mr. Joseph Sturge has presented the corporation of Birmingham with eight acres of grass land for a public recreation ground.

English exhibitors at the New York Crystal Palace cannot recover their property, the concern being insolvent!

In the north-eastern gallery of the Paris Exhibition is an enormous picture representing a group of birds, with landscape for background—all worked in hair!

The new planet lately discovered at Dusseldorf has received the name of Leukothea. Its distinctive sign will be an ancient light tower.

Mrs. Daniel Webster resides in a fine house in New York, purchased for her by young men admirers of her late husband, at a cost of 25,000 dollars.

Mr. Marshall's statue of Campbell, the poet, was erected on Tuesday, the 1st inst., in Poet's Corner, and may now be viewed.

An uncle left in his will eleven silver spoons to his nephew, adding, "If I have not left him the dozen, he knows the reason." The fact was, the nephew had some time before stolen it from his relative.

Sir William Don, a Scottish baronet, is filling an engagement as comedian at Toronto, after the termination of which he will settle on the Toronto side of the Atlantic.

Mr. Gough, the great temperance lecturer, is about to return to America, in consequence of ill-health. He intends to return to Great Britain next year, and remain in it five years, prosecuting the work to which he has devoted his life and energies.

At the Bishop's visitation, held recently at Appleby, the following dialogue was overheard between two youngsters:—Jack: I say, Bill, what's the meaning o' so many parsons being here? Bill: Wie! they meets yance a year to change sermons.

In a letter recently sent by Mr. George F. Angus, of Adelaide, to his brother in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, it is remarked that "at this colony all public-houses are shut up during Sundays—every place is as orderly on that day as any place in Scotland."

The *Journal of the Academy of Medicine*, at Turin, contains some curious statistics on human life; among others, the statement that married men live longer than bachelors, and great men longer than those of small stature. The two months of the twelve in which most marriages are celebrated are June and December.

A baker in Paris is driving a great trade by selling the 14-sous loaf for 12 sous: he is enabled to do this by using one-sixth of rice instead of wheat-flour. It is said that the bread is as good as that made in the ordinary way; its quality had been tested by the Government in feeding troops, and the report was favourable.

The indefatigable Barnum has again produced something new—he has an elephant on his farm near Bridgeport which draws a subsoil plough, drags a huge cart filled with stone or gravel, piles timber, and makes itself "generally useful." Passengers on the New York and Newhaven Railway can see this novelty gratis.

Mr. Addington, in a letter to his brother, dated December 29, says: "I am just returned from Kew, where I passed an hour and a half with His Majesty [George III.], and partook of his dinner." As the reader may probably have some curiosity to know what delicacies comprised the Royal banquet, the quotation is finished, "Which consisted of mutton chops and pudding."—*The Duke of Buckingham's Court and Cabinets of George III.*

In his speech in the Commons on Friday, Major Reed made a solemn appeal to Lord Palmerston to say or do something to redeem his character with the country, and concluded with a solemn adjuration—

Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen!

On Monday night, the Earl of Derby, in allusion to the quotation, begged to go on with it—

He heard and was amazed—as soldiers found
Sleeping upon the watch.

Without notice to the House of Commons on the motion, but touched by the magic wand, or magic

"Reed"—(laughter)—the Sleeping Beauty roused herself from her couch, where, for seven times seven long years, she had been dreaming and puzzling herself as to what strange arrangement could have separated the Artillery from the commander-in-chief—(laughter)—for seven times seven years that had been the waking dream and perpetual puzzle of the noble lord, and which had never departed from his consideration. That was the great administrative reform which the government had to propose.

The shortest sermon on record was preached by probably one of the most eloquent men who ever adorned a pulpit, the late Dean Kirwan. He was pressed, while suffering from a severe cold, to preach in the church of St. Peter's, Dublin, for the orphan children in the parish school. He tried to excuse himself, but at last yielded, ill as he was. After mounting the pulpit, while the church was crowded to suffocation, and having given out the text, he merely pointed his hand to the orphan children in the aisle and said, "There they are." It is said the collection on that occasion exceeded all belief. Dean Kirwan left a son, the present Dean of Limerick.

BIRTHS.

April 26, at Audley-place, Cork, Mrs. BENJAMIN FARRINGTON, of a daughter.

May 4, at 73, Cheapside, the wife of Mr. ALFRED J. BOWEN, of a daughter.

May 5, at Wrentham, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. JOHN BROWN, of a daughter.

May 6, the wife of the Rev. J. E. DROVER, Wincanton, of a daughter.

May 12, at River-terrace, the wife of Mr. G. H. VIRTUE, of Paternoster-row, of a daughter.

May 12, at Lewes, the wife of the Rev. J. HATCHETT, B.A., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

May 7, at New Court Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by the Rev. Isaac Davies, Mr. WILLIAM HANE, builder, to Miss BAILEY, of Gloucester-street.

May 9, at St. James's, Westbourne-terrace, by the Rev. T. E. Abraham, SLINGSBY, son of Sir R. BATHURST, H.M.'s Solicitor-General, to CAROLINE, daughter of W. J. Chaplin, Esq., M.P., of Hyde-park-gardens.

May 9, at Bond-street Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. Thomas Lucas, Mr. WILLIAM GODFREY LEVER SPYER, of Warrington, Oxon, to MARY ANN, only surviving daughter of the late Mr. SAMUEL POCHIN, of the same place.

May 10, at Egham-Hill Chapel, by the Rev. James Holy, D.D., THOMAS WARD SWINBURNE, Esq., of Alton, Leicestershire, to MATILDA, only daughter of JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., of Kingswood-lodge, Englefield-green, Surrey.

May 12, at Paddington Chapel, by the Rev. G. Orme, assisted by the Rev. J. Orme, brothers of the bride, Mr. E. F. STONE, to Miss SARAH ORME, both of London.

DEATHS.

June 22, 1854, at Long Prairie, near Albion, Edward's County Illinois, United States of America, in his seventy-eighth year, Mr. BENJAMIN SEXTON. Deceased was upwards of twenty years leading singer at Salem Chapel, Leeds, under the pastorate of the late Rev. Edward Parsons and the Rev. John Ely.

April 14, after a short illness, Mr. HENRY BROWN, of Sheffield, Norfolk.

May 5, at his residence in Bedford-square, the Right Hon. Sir ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, Bart., aged sixty-nine.

May 5, at Upper Montague-street, Rear-Admiral C. STRACHEY, Knight of St. Vladimir of Russia, aged seventy-seven.

May 5, RICHARD GRAVES TOWNLEY, of Fulbourn, in the county of Cambridge, in his sixty-ninth year.

May 5, at her residence, London-road, Leicester, ELIZABETH, wife of the Rev. GEORGE LLOYD, LL.D.

May 7, at his residence, Stoke Newington, ROBERT FRITCHARD KELL, Esq., of the Bank of England, in his sixty-sixth year.

May 8, at 26, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, JANE, relict of the late Sir Sir HUMPHRY DAVY, Bart., and sole issue of the late CHARLES KERR, Esq., of the Island of Antigua.

May 9, at the Grove, Hammersmith, RICHARD FOSTER, infant son of Rev. FREDERICK TRENTAHL.

May 11, at 9, Southwick-street, Hyde-park, ANNE, the widow of the late Dr. CYNTHUS GREGORY, of Woolwich, aged sixty-six.

May 11, at Kettering, at the residence of her nephew, J. Davis Gotch, Esq., Mrs. SARAH DAVIS, of Chesham, aged eighty-one.

[Advertisement.]—KENT MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S Queen-street-place, New Cannon-street.—The Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Kent Mutual Life Assurance Society, was held, on the 8th inst., at the London Tavern, and was attended by a great number of its most influential members.—The chair was taken by Mr. J. T. King, the chairman of the board, and among the members present were C. B. Mander, Esq., of Wolverhampton; R. H. Haywood, Esq.; the Rev. A. P. Hughes, of Hanley, Dr. Goddard; of Loughton; the Rev. A. P. Hughes, of Gornal; R. Davison, Esq.; R. W. Cooke, Esq.; F. Dollman, Esq.; W. J. Carne, Esq.; P. Karslake, Esq.; T. Wilson, Esq.; J. C. Burnett, Esq.; N. Crouch, Esq.; T. W. Pike, Esq.; R. Crossley, Esq.; W. Brownfield, Esq.; C. B. Kelham, Esq.; J. Bessemer, Esq.; R. Longdon, Esq.; J. L. Evans, Esq.; T. Minshall, Esq.; W. Holdich, Esq.; J. C. Hales, Esq.; B. L. Thompson, Esq.; J. W. McMillen, Esq.; J. Young, Esq.; S. Rickan, Esq.; W. Anderson, Esq.; G. Fagg, Esq.; J. Burton, Esq.; J. Gould, jun., Esq.; and W. Baker, Esq.—Mr. George Cumming, the Manager, read the Directors' Report. It stated that since the last annual meeting, 509 New Policies had been issued, upon which 6,194 lrs. 6d. had been received in Premiums. The Assets of the Society at present amounted to 31,398 lrs. 1d., and under the Division of Profits, realised on the 24th March, 1854, a cash bonus of one-fifth of the Premiums paid was declared upon all Policies on which two or more Annual Premiums had been paid. It further stated that the Society's Annual Revenue now amounted to 18,130 lrs. 10s. 1d.—The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report, the reading of which elicited the entire approbation of the meeting—congratulated it upon its eminently practical character, as regarded the large amount of success which it had been the good fortune of the directors to attain during the past year. It would be unnecessary for him to allude to the circumstances of active competition which now existed among the representatives of the several companies; and, having regard to that, he was sure it would be most gratifying to them to find that the assertion made in casual conversation by various managers and secretaries, that the wonderful amount of business transacted by the Kent Mutual Society in its past years was the result of gigantic efforts on the part of the board, and would not be continued in ensuing years, had been disproved. It was most true that great efforts had been made; but the board never overlooked the importance of getting active and influential agents throughout the country, and the result of the judicious measures which they had taken in that view was seen in the highly satisfactory Report now before them. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that it was only necessary that the principles of the office should be known, and its advantages fairly laid before the public, to command perfect success; and he begged to move that the Report be now approved and adopted.—The motion having been seconded by Mr. Wilson, of Newport, Monmouthshire, was put and agreed to unanimously.—The directors and auditors retiring by rotation having been re-elected, the Chairman then proposed that the thanks of

the meeting be voted to the local boards of North and South Staffordshire, including in the resolution the names of Mr. Mander, of Wolverhampton, and Dr. Goddard, of the North Staffordshire board.—The motion was cordially agreed to, and both gentlemen severally returned thanks, declaring their confidence in the soundness of the principles upon which the society was founded, and that, with the active exertions which they would not fail to make, it would be sure to make still further progress in the country.—Mr. Bishop, as connected with the North Staffordshire Board, moved a resolution, expressive of their entire confidence in the management, and their satisfaction at the prosperity which had hitherto attended their operations, and added that he thought their local society would be in a position to double its transactions with them.—Mr. Mander moved a vote of thanks to the Supporters and Agents, which was agreed to; Mr. Wilson, Mr. Pike, and Mr. Gosbell returning thanks.—Votes of thanks were then passed to the Medical Referees, the Actuary, and the Manager.—Mr. Hilman, the Actuary, in returning thanks, said that he should have been justified in estimating their business at a much higher rate of interest than three per cent., but he preferred being moderate, and could assure the meeting that the balance-sheet was a true statement of their affairs.—Mr. Cumming also returned thanks, and, in doing so, went into a few figures, exhibiting a highly satisfactory state of the affairs of the society as compared with some of the oldest offices in their earlier years.—A vote of thanks having been unanimously passed to the Chairman for his able and courteous conduct in the chair, the meeting terminated.—The anniversary festival was celebrated in the evening by a splendid dinner at the London Tavern, at which Mr. King again presided, supported by a large number of the directors, members, and supporters of the society, among whom we noticed Sir James Duke Bart, M.P.; Mr. Lee, M.P.; Sir H. Muggersidge, Sheriff; Mr. Alderman Kennedy; Mr. Deputy Daken; Sir C. P. Koney; Rev. H. Mackenzie, M.A.; Rev. Mr. Cattley; C. B. Mander, Esq.; James Grant, Esq.; Dr. Goddard; F. Stanier, Esq.; A. Palk, Esq., &c. &c. The usual loyal toasts having been duly responded to, the Chairman gave the "House of Commons." Sir James Duke, M.P., returned thanks—observing that he had not undertaken the responsibility of Trustees of the Kent Mutual Assurance Society, without first ascertaining that he would be justified in so doing, and that he felt the highest confidence in the management.—Mr. Lee, M.P., also returned thanks, and referred in high terms to the distinguished position which the Kent Mutual Assurance Society had obtained for itself among the assurance societies of the metropolis.—The Chairman gave "The Lord Mayor and Corporation of London," associating with it the names of Sheriff Sir H. Muggersidge, and Mr. Alderman Kennedy.—The Chairman then gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Kent Mutual Assurance Society." He was satisfied that there was no occasion for his saying anything to enlist the sympathy of the Company on behalf of the interests of the Society which they had met to promote. (Hear, hear.) The question had been frequently put—"How was it that the Kent Mutual Assurance Society had outstripped many other societies of older date?" The answer was to be found in those principles of universal morality, which appealed at once to the intelligence of our countrymen, and their desire to have a voice in the direction of their own affairs. (Hear, hear.) He felt quite sure that the great things they had already accomplished would be still far exceeded by a continued application of the same principles, and doubted not that the 20,000l. per annum of income, which they had realised in five years, might soon be immensely augmented. (Cheers.)—Mr. Alderman Kennedy proposed the health of the Chairman, which was warmly responded to by the company.—The healths of the trustees, local boards, and manager, having been afterwards drunk, and responded to, the party separated, after passing an evening most unanimously in the promotion of the interests of the society.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Money Market has been generally well supported during the past week, the large arrivals of gold and the improved news from Sebastopol having produced a favourable effect. To-day, the Stock Market has been quiet and inanimate, there being an absence of any intelligence to influence prices, and the business transactions few and unimportant. Rumours of a new French loan are again afloat.

In Foreign Securities and Shares there is little movement.

The specie arrivals of last week amounted to nearly 800,000l. On Monday, 360,000l. in specie arrived. The exports did not much exceed 100,000l.

The accounts of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns during the past week present little alteration, but in some cases there has been a tendency to improvement, which will probably be strengthened by the change in the weather, and the increasing ease in the money market. At Manchester, however, the transactions have been unsatisfactory, since there has been no rise in quotations to compensate for the further speculative advance in the Liverpool cotton market. The Birmingham report describes a slight revival in the iron trade. At Nottingham there has again been more animation in hosiery, while lace is dull without alteration. In the woollen districts there has been a sustained business at firm prices. The Irish linen markets are without improvement. The successful application of machinery to the linen loom lately effected attracts attention, and is said to be likely to create a new era in the manufacture.

The trade of the port of London during the past week has shown increased activity owing to numerous arrivals, consequent on the change of wind. The total number of ships reported inward was 259, being an increase of fifty-one over the previous week. Among these there are several from China, and also a large number laden with colonial sugar. The departures have continued to diminish for some time, and the total cleared outward in the week just ended was 117, showing fourteen less than in the previous week.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week comprised four vessels—three to Portland Bay, with an aggregate burden of 2,722 tons; and one to Sydney, of 622 tons. Their total capacity was 3,344 tons. The rates of freight exhibit little alteration.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
Consols for Account	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
3 per Ct. Red.	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
New 3 per Ct.	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
Annuitants	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2	87 1/2
India Stock	230	230	230 1/2	231	231	231 1/2
Bank Stock	210 1/2	210 1/2	210 1/2	210 1/2	210 1/2	210 1/2
Exchequer-bills	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuitants	15-10	15-10	15-10	15-10	15-10	15-10

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 21, for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th day of May, 1855.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£28,911,030	Government Debt	£11,010,100
		Other Securities	3,904,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	14,911,030
		Silver Bullion	—
	£28,911,030		£28,911,030

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,543,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	£12,801,275
Reserve	3,136,435	Other Securities	15,791,000
Public Deposits	4,337,590	Notes	5,740,000
Other Deposits	12,545,551	Gold and Silver Coin	700,100
Seven Day and other Bills	1,090,536		
	£35,763,911		£35,763,911

May 10, 1855.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, May 11, 1855.

BANKRUPT.

FRANK, P., Brecknock-place, Camden-town, linendraper, May 10, June 22; solicitor, Mr. Linsley, Ludgate-street, City.

BELL, G., Holland-street, North Brixton, tailor, May 10, June 22; solicitor, Mr. Preston, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane.

LOFTS, J., Strand, printer, May 27, June 10; solicitor, Mr. Marsden, Sise-lane, City.

GAIST, T., Salisbury, clothier, May 18, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Co., Aldermanbury; and Messrs. Lambert and Norton, Salisbury.

COCKELL, W., Battersea, Surrey, licensed victualler, May 27, June 20; solicitors, Messrs. Fytche and Co., John-street, Bedford-row.

ELADON, J., Church-row, Limehouse, shipowner, May 21, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Lowles and Nelson, Hatton-court, Thread-needle-street.

GREENE, C., Charrington-street, St. Pancras, bookseller, May 21, June 10; solicitor, Mr. Dinn, Great Knight Rider-street, Doctors'-commons.

BROOKES, E. S., Loughborough, Leicestershire, hatter, May 25, June 12; solicitor, Inglesant, Loughborough.

HEATH, A. J., Gloucester, boot and shoe maker, May 26, June 20; solicitor, Mr. Smallbridge, Gloucester.

BROOKES, J., Weston-super-Mare, Somersetshire, wine merchant, May 22, June 10; solicitor, Mr. Crafter, Blackfriars-road.

EVANS, M., Aberdare, Glamorganshire, grocer, May 28, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.

DAVIES, D., jun., Neath, Glamorganshire, railway contractor, May 28, June 20; solicitors, Mr. Grover, Cardiff; and Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.

JACKSON, W., Leedsbury, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer, May 22, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Bruce and Butler, Leeds.

MITCHELL, J., Bradford, Yorkshire, manufacturer, May 24, June 22; solicitors, Mr. Lees, Bradford; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

POWELL, W., York, linendraper, May 22, June 10; solicitors, Mr. Mason, York; and Messrs. Caris and Underwood, Leeds.

HAGSTADT, J. A., Kingston-upon-Hull, Yorkshire, licensed victualler, May 30, June 27; solicitor, Mr. Walker, Hull.

CLARK, J. G., Liverpool, merchant, May 20, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Lowndes and Co., Liverpool.

DALTON, J., Newton Heath, near Manchester, Lancashire, emery grinder, May 21, June 10; solicitors, Messrs. Whitworth, Manchester.

INNES, J., and THOMAS, R., Manchester, drysalts, May 22, June 11; solicitors, Messrs. Brown, Chester; and Goulden, Manchester.

CONDON, C., Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturer, May 22, June 20; solicitor, Mr. Higginbotham, Macclesfield.

JEFFERSON, W., and DIXON, T., Jarrow, Durham, alkali manufacturers, May 18, June 22; solicitors, Mr. Hartley, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury; and Mr. Brignall, Durham.

DIVIDENDS.

June 2, E. L. Green, Bevis Marks, City wholesale clothier—June 1, H. B. Cox, Southampton, purser—June 1, J. Overbury, Frederick's-place, City, woollen warehouseman—June 1, H. G. Winstanley, (separate estate), Pooley, City, chemist—June 1, S. S. Ireland, Brighton, cabinet maker—June 2, T. Folland and A. J. Symonds, Guildford, Surrey, builders—June 2, T. Ballard, Southwick-place, Fiddington, apothecary—June 1, J. P. Whitmore, Hackney, draper—June 2, J. H. H. Colchester, plumber—June 6, J. H. Gould and F. H. Gould, Watling-street, City, wholesale lace warehousemen—June 5, J. Smith and L. Ashby, Great Corn-street, Brunswick-square, linendrapers—June 5, T. F. B. Gladish, Leamington, music seller—June 5, E. H. Bally, Newman-street, Oxford-street, and Crescent, Camden-road-villas, sculptor—June 4, G. B. Hussey, Plymouth, innkeeper—June 4, W. H. Miners, Plymouth, grocer—June 4, J. Hunter, Manchester, wholesale tea merchant—June 5, D. McGregor, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Dilston Paper-mill, Northumberland, dealer in marine stores—June 4, E. Sparrow, Liverpool, metal broker—June 4, R. Rimmer, Southport and Seaford, Lancashire, builder—June 4, J. Storer (separate estate), Liverpool, British wine merchant—June 5, T. Gankroger (separate estate), Halifax, Yorkshire, cotton spinner—June 5, W. Slater (separate estate), Halifax, Yorkshire, cotton spinner—June 1, J. Webb, Scarborough, Yorkshire, hotel keeper—June 1, Sarah Ratcliffe, B. Ratcliffe, and J. Ratcliffe, Ovenden, Yorkshire, manufacturers—June 1, B. Ratcliffe (separate estate), Ovenden, Yorkshire, manufacturers—June 1, J. Moore, Skircoat, Yorkshire, common brewer—June 1, J. Poppell, Silkestone, Yorkshire, butcher—June 2, J. Richardson, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, draper—June 2, S. Plimsole, Sheffield, coal merchant.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Mary Heard and Eliza Jones, Colchester, schoolmistresses—R. Hill, J. Burnley, J. Fawcett, G. Fawcett, S. Wilkinson, J. Heworth, G. Heworth, J. Walker, C. Sheard, and J. H. Sheard, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, scribbling millers—T. Ware and W. Sanders, Woodbury, Devonshire, tanners—T. Giles and J. Brown, Kingston-upon-Hull, joiners—T. Potter and J. P. Rotherford, Stamford-bridge, Yorkshire, millers—F. Spencer and E. Nickels, Nottingham, lace manufacturers—J. Hargreaves and J. Davidson, Carlisle, whip makers—J. Manning and D. Wells, G. Powell, J. Powell, and T. Powell, Barnagat, painters—J. Priestley and B. Priestley, Stainland, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturers—J. Whaley, T. Turnbull, and J. Swallow, Bradford, Yorkshire, plumbers—S. Heap, J. Heap, and W. T. Heap, Calderhew, Lancashire, fulling millers; as far as regards J. Heap—J. Gosling, sen., and W. Gosling, Dover, grocers—T. Dixon and J. Moore, Liverpool, mechanical engineers—G. T. Winstanley, and J. W. Devereux, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, merchants.

—S. E. Merck, A. Sloman, and C. T. Bradbury, Ashton-under-Lyme, Lancashire, cotton spinners—J. Burton, R. H. Marshall, and E. C. Oiler, Leeds, artificial florists—T. Clegg and J. Wilson, Bradford, Yorkshire, yarn agents—J. Gosling, sen., and J. Gosling, jun., Ripley, Surrey, grocers—J. Gosling, sen., and D. Cooper, East Grinstead, Sussex, grocers—W. Dennis and T. Brown, John-street, Whitechapel, machinists—J. Greenham and J. Croft, Leadenhall-street, City, consulting engineers—J. Freeman and C. H. Smith, Walsall, Staffordshire, electro-platers—D. Dismore and W. Hayes, Cranbourne-passage, Leicester-square, licensed victuallers—H. Watmough and T. Bailey, Manchester, drapers—A. Taylor and J. P. Bennett, Stockport, Cheshire, cotton waste spinners—E. Morrall and T. Woodward, Liverpool, commercial agents—J. Monteith, R. Omerod, and G. Wall, Hayfield and Manchester, calico printers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Fraser, D., jun., Inverness, ironmonger, May 23.
Eaglesham, H., and Eaglesham, G. M., Shettleton, near Glasgow, dyers.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Gundry, J., and Gundry, W., Goldsmiths, Cornwall, merchants, final div. of 5s., any Tuesday or Friday, at Hirtzel's, Exeter—Strada, W., Everroech, Somersetshire, tallow chandler, div. of 5s., May 16, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Miller's, Bristol—Wilkinson, A., Crosemore, Shropshire, innkeeper, first div. of 1s. 6d., any Friday, at Whitmore's, Birmingham.

Tuesday, May 15, 1855.

BANKRUPT.

PAUL, P. Brecknock-place, Camden-town, linen draper, May 19, June 22; solicitors, Messrs. Lumley, Ludgate-street, City.
SPARKS, W. B. P., New Bond-street, waterproofer, May 26, June 29; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.
ADAMS, H., Usbridge, Middlesex, mealman, May 25, June 29; solicitors, Messrs. Paterson, Bouvier-street, Fleet-street; and Mr. Wedd, Usbridge.

JARMAN, W., Gloucester-terrace, Hyde-park, boarding-house keeper, May 29, June 26; solicitor, Mr. Willis, Queen-street, Chancery.

NEAL, R., Wandsworth-common, Surrey, carman, May 29, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Smith and Son, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.

PAUL, W. H., Cornhill, City, share dealer, May 29, June 29; solicitor, Mr. Orchard, Lyon's-inn, Strand.

LATIMER, T. J., Brighton, clothier, May 22, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.

ANDERSON, G., Upper-street, Islington, stationer, May 24, June 21; solicitor, Mr. Camp, Paternoster-row.

BOONAN, T., Reading, Berkshire, tailor, May 25, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Ford and Lloyd, Bloomsbury-square.

SIMPSON, J. V., St. Swithin's-lane, City, and Herne Bay, Kent, bill broker, May 25, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Bennett and Stark, Furnival's-inn.

PATTERSON, E., Birmingham, draper, June 1 and 23; solicitors, Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.

SIMS, J., Blakeney, Gloucestershire, tailor, May 29, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Crosby, Bristol, and Jay, Serjeants'-inn.

MAYN, S., Boulton, E., and Boulton, S., Bristol and Naisles, Somersetshire, and No. 18, Wharf, City Basin, potters, May 29, June 26; solicitors, Mr. Salmon, Bristol.

LIVINGTON, J., Bradford, Yorkshire, manufacturer, May 24, June 22; solicitors, Messrs. Lees, Bradford; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

CARVER, J., and CARVER, W., Halifax, Yorkshire, machine makers, May 31, June 22; solicitors, Mr. Robson, Halifax; and Messrs. Carver and Cadworth, Leeds.

WATSON, H., Sheffield, Yorkshire, common brewer, May 26, June 23; solicitor, Mr. Smith, jun., Sheffield.

CLARK, J. G., Liverpool, merchant, May 25, June 14; solicitors, Messrs. Lewndes and Co., Liverpool.

WILKINSON, J., Liverpool, merchant, May 25, June 21; solicitors, Messrs. Little and Bardwell, Liverpool.

KOSKOFF, F., Manchester, builder, May 25, June 15; solicitor, Mr. Barlow, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.

June 4, W. Shackel, Canning-place, St. Luke's, bacon merchant—June 4, R. Pledge, Oroydon, Surrey, grocer—June 4, S. Isaac, Portsea, Hampshire, hardwareman—June 4, G. R. Walcott, Noble-street, City, commission agent—June 6, H. J. Stenart, Jermyn-street, St. James's, hotel keeper—June 9, E. Oakley, Poole, Dorsetshire, corn merchant—June 9, G. Jarrett, Wickham Welford, Berkshire, builder—June 9, W. Palmer, Aldgate, City, draper—June 9, W. Hill, Manchester, Canvas dealer—June 9, M. Nathan, Liverpool, watch manufacturer—June 9, J. Walsh, Liverpool, corn merchant—June 11, W. Dickinson, Clayton West, Yorkshire, corn dealer—June 11, W. Addy and T. Addy, Leeds, cloth manufacturers.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

W. Ruggitt and T. C. Lindsey, Leominster, Herefordshire; Tenbury, Worcestershire; Kingston, Herefordshire; and Newtown, Montgomeryshire, carriers—J. Dyson, W. Pearson, and W. N. Swift, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, linendrapers—A. R. Torry and W. W. Collins, Salford, Lancashire, engineers—R. Guthrie, Elizabeth Le Gassick, and J. W. B. Le Gassick, George-street, Hanover-square, tailors—S. Drinkwater and J. Roberts, Wotton, Cheshire, joiners—J. Wilson and J. Fairbank, Bradford, Yorkshire, goldsmiths—E. B. Baldwin and W. H. Broomhall, Walsall, Staffordshire, wholesale saddlers—C. G. Jaulerry and S. C. Boudreaux, Great Winchester-street, City, merchants—W. Palfrey and E. H. Bird, Broadbentbury, Devonshire, brick makers—W. H. Hood and F. R. Hood, Deptford, Kent, brass founders—J. Gregson and T. Gorrell, Preston, Lancashire, grocers—J. Taylor, W. Jennings, and W. Northrop, Bradford, Yorkshire, commission weavers; as far as regards W. Jennings—C. Luff and G. Edgar, Tonbridge Wells, Kent, grocers—N. Adams and T. A. Finnimore, Lymington, Hampshire, surgeons—R. Foster and H. S. Foster, Cambridge, brewers—E. M. Elderton and J. A. Buckland, Litchbury, City, attorneys—T. W. Osborne, and B. Edwards, Birmingham, coach builders—J. S. Edwards, J. H. Edwards, and G. H. Edwards, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, tailors, as far as regards G. H. Edwards—J. P. Booth and A. Fox, Cork, Ireland, and Hatton-garden, City, feather merchants—E. Stansfield, J. Stansfield, and A. Hodgins, Todmorden, Lancashire, ironfounders—J. H. Linton and J. J. Clarke, Royal Exchange-buildings, stock-brokers—F. G. Aitken and T. E. Aitken, York-buildings, Adelphi, bookbinders—E. T. Carlisle and W. Wright, Berners-buildings, New-road, Southwark, contractors—W. Taylor, P. Brash, and J. Dick, Lelth, soap manufacturers, so far as regards W. Taylor.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Mooney, H., Glasgow, spirit dealer, May 22.
Lyon, J. W., Edinburgh, stockbroker, May 23.
M'Intyre, W., M'Intyre, R., M'Intyre, J., Harrow, J., Harrow, R., and Bachop, W., Colindale, Paisley, calico printers, May 24.
Stewart, C. Dundee, boot merchant, May 23.
Law, A., Govan, Lanarkshire, grocer, May 24.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Faton, W., Bread-street, City, warehouseman, first div. of 5d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Rasinghall-street—Wildore, F., Whitroch, Cambridgeshire, hotel keeper, first div. of 10d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Rasinghall-street—Gibbs, N. B., Connaught-terrace, Edgware-road, chemist, second div. of 1s. 11d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Rasinghall-street—Talley, L., Ince, near Wigan, Lancashire, cotton spinner, first div. of 1s. 6d., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—Stansfield, S., Little Hulton, Lancashire, cotton spinner, first div. of 2s. 10d., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—Longmore, G. (separate estate), Manchester, provision merchant, first div. of 20s., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—Longmore, G., and Longmore, J., Manchester, provision merchants, first div. of 14s. 4d., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—McKenna, T., Belfast, draper, first div., on new profits, of 1s. 8d., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—Hope, J., Burley, Lancashire, grocer, first div. of 5s., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester—Crowther, J., Manchester and Eccles, grocer, first div. of 4s. 8d., May 15, and every subsequent Tuesday, at Hearnman's, Manchester.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, May 14.

There was rather more wheat on sale this morning from Essex and Kent, but having an improved demand, fine samples realised 1s 2s per qr more than on Monday last. Foreign was held for the same advance, and sold most freely. Flour met with buyers at last Monday's quotations. Barley reader sale. Beans and peas fully as dear. We had a good arrival of Irish oats, but moderate of other descriptions; the trade was quiet to-day, and prices 6d per qr lower than on this day week. Linseed and cakes firm.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. s.	Wheat	s. s.
Essex and Kent, Red	78 to 79	Dantzic	82 to 84
Do White	76 84	Konigsberg, Red	76 88
Linco., Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	76 84
Yorkshire Red	—	Rostock	76 84
Scotch	72 74	Danish and Holstein	74 78
Rye	44 46	East Friesland	72 76
Barley malted (new)	32 34	Petersburg	68 76
Distilling	62 70	Riga and Archangel	62 66
Malt (pale)	62 70	Polish Odessa	73 73
Beans, Masagan	44 46	Marianopol	80 86
Peas	—	Taganrog	60 66
Harrow	—	Egyptian	46 50
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	76 86
Peas, White	42 44	Barley, Pomeranian	31 33
Grey	38 42	Konigsberg	—
Maple	38 42	Danish	31 34
Boilers	44 46	East Friesland	28 30
Tares (English)	40 42	Egyptian	25 26
Foreign	40 42	Odessa	25 26
Oats (English feed)	28 28	Beans	—
Flour, town made, per		Horse	38 40
Sack of 280 lbs.	65 70	Pigeon	42 44
Linseed, English	75 80	Egyptian	36 38
Baltic	64 68	Peas, White	42 44
Black Sea	66 68	Oats	—
Hempseed	46 50	Dutch	25 29
Canaryseed	40 52	Jahde	25 29
Chloveseed, per cwt. of		Danish	24 28
112 lbs. English	40 50	Danish, Yellow feed	27 30
German	44 50	Swedish	27 28
French	44 52	Petersburg	26 27
American	44 46	Flour, per bar. of 190 lbs.	—
Linseed Cakes, 150 lbs to 180 lbs		New York	38 44
Rape Cake, 60 lbs to 100 lbs per ton		Spanish, per sack	60 61
Rapeseed, 420 lbs to 440 lbs per last		Carawayseed	33 34

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 10d to 10½d; of household ditto, 8½d to 9½d per 4½ lbs loaf.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 14.

The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 2,031 head. In the corresponding week in 1854, we received 898; in 1853, 3,401; in 1852, 1,995; in 1851, 2,893; in 1850, 1,376; and in 1849, 1,363. To-day's market was but moderately supplied with foreign stock, the quality of which was inferior. There was a decided falling off in the arrivals of home-fed beasts fresh up to our market this morning, compared with Monday last; whilst their general quality was by no means first-rate. As the attendance of buyers was good, the beef trade ruled active, at an advance in the quotations obtained on this day, 2d per 8 lbs, and a good clearance was effected. The total figure for Scotch was 4s 8d per 8 lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 2,300 Scotch and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 400 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 500 horned and polled Scotch. The receipts, by sea, from Ireland, last week, were 39 beasts, and 191 sheep. We were very moderately supplied with sheep, the condition of which showed a falling off. The mutton trade was very brisk, at an improvement in value, compared with Monday last, of from 2d to 4d per 8 lbs. The best old Downs, out of the wool, were selling at fully 5s per 8 lbs. It must be understood that our tabular quotations refer solely to sheep out of the wool. The supply of lambs was moderate, and the demand for all breeds was firm, at fully Friday's advance, the best lambs being worth 6s 10d per 8 lbs. Prime small calves were very scarce, and 2d per 8 lbs higher, the top figure being 5s 4d per 8 lbs; but other kinds of veal were a slow sale. The demand for pigs ruled inactive. In prices, no change took place.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 2 to 3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	4 2 to 4 4
Second quality	3 8 to 3 10	Prime Southdown	4 8 to 5 0
Prime large oxen	4 0 to 4 4	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 to 4 8
Prime Scotch, &c.	4 6 to 4 8	Prime small	4 10 to 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	3 6 to 3 8	Large hogs	3 0 to 4 0
Second quality	3 10 to 4 0	Neat sm. porkers	4 2 to 4 4

Lambs, 5s 2d to 6s 10d.

Suckling calves, 22s to 25s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, May 14.

The supplies of each kind of meat on sale in these markets are moderately good. Prime beef, mutton, lamb, and veal are in good request, at very full prices. In other kinds only a moderate business is doing, on former terms.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, May 14.—Last week, some quantity of rain fell, but the weather was very cold. Very little was done in Irish butter. The new 4th Cork landed was nearly all sold in retail at 8s, but some was offered to arrive at 8s. Of foreign the supply was plentiful, the demand good, and prices the turn cheaper. Bacon: Best Irish singed sides were in limited inquiry. In stale and secondary quality there was slightly more doing, at 1s to 2s decline. American sides and middles were saleable at full rates. Hams rather more sought after. Lard steady.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Friesland, per cwt.	102 to 104	Cheshire (new) per cwt.	65 to 80
Kiel	102 106	Cheddar	68 80
Dorset	100 96	Double Gloucester	60 70
Carlisle	100 106	Single ditto	58 68
Waterford	94 100	York Hams (new)	76 82
Cork (new)	92 100	Westmoreland ditto	78 81
Limerick	84 94	Irish ditto	66 76
Sligo	96 102	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	72 78
Fresh, per dozen	12 15	Irish (green)	64 66

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCEING-LANE, May 15.

SCALES.—The market has opened for the week with a good demand, and the full prices of last Friday have been freely paid, 1,660 hhds of West India have been sold; Barbadoes, in public sale, sold 33s, 4s 6d; 17,000 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, and 15,000 sold with spirit at full prices, brown, 30s, 34s; yellow, 34s 6d, 39s; grainy, 41s, 42s 6d; the remainder bought in at high rates. 700 bags Bengal sold steadily at previous prices; Benares, 37s 6d, 39s 6d. 1,600 bags Madras were also offered, and sold freely, 28s 6d, 32s. A cargo of white Pernambuco, 3,600 bags, sold by private contract, at 25s 6d, for the Mediterranean. The refined market firm, at last week's prices; brown lumps, 46s 6d; grocery, 47s, 52s.

COFFEES.—The public sale of 190 casks of plantation Ceylon was of fine quality, of favourite marks, and nearly all withdrawn at very high prices. Native Ceylon quoted firm, at 47s 6d, 48s. A cargo of St. Domingo, 2,800 bags, sold at 42s 6d, for a near port.

TEA.—There has been a good demand for common congou, and some parcels have been sold at 8½d, the general quotation now is 8½d, 8½d.

RICE.—A large business has been done by private contract; a cargo of 6,000 bags Rangoon about sold at 12s 3d; and a full amount of business has been done in Bengal on the spot, at 14s, 14s 6d.

SALTPEPER.—About 50 tons refraction 2 to 3, reported sold, 29s, or 29s 3d.

INDIGO.—Sixth day.—730 chests have passed sale to-day. The quantity now passed auction is 7,040 chests, of which 3,670 have been sold. We do not make any alteration in prices to-day.

COTTON.—The demand continues brisk, and the article has an upward tendency; 1,000 bales sold to-day.

TALLOW remains quoted 53s 6d.

IRON.—Scotch pig steady at 64s.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, May 14.—For the time of year our markets are fairly supplied with most kinds of potatoes. Although the trade is dull, prices of the best qualities are advancing. York Regents, 120s to 170s; Kent and Essex ditto, 105s to 120s; Scotch ditto, 100s to 130s; Blues, 95s to 110s; Lincolns, 110s to 120s per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 14.—There are very few home-grown hops on sale here, and the supply of foreign is limited. Most kinds move off freely, at very full prices. Last week's imports were 117 bales from New York, 10 from Hambro', and 13 from Havre.

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday, May 14.—There is less activity in the demand for linseed, yet prices are supported. In other seeds, only a limited business is doing. Cakes command last week's quotations.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, May 14.—Our market is very inactive, owing to the increasing supplies, and prices are barely supported. F.Y.C., on the spot, is quoted at 52s 9d to 53s per cwt. For forward delivery, very little is doing. Town tallow, 51s 6d net cash; rough fat, 2s 10½d.

FANTOULES.

	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Stock	34974	42301	34877	35324	40848
Price of Yellow Candle	37s 3d 36s 9d	47s 0d 46s 0d	47s 0d 46s 0d	47s 0d 46s 0d	47s 0d 46s 0d
Delivery last Week	585	1221	794	937	2502
Ditto from the 1st of June	89176	101326	100482	91597	83106
Arr'd last Week	791	283	807	450	2248
Ditto from the 1st of June	98632	107093	84232	103536	87949
Price of Town Tallow	38s 6d 38s 9d	49s 3d 46s 1d	49s 3d 46s 1d	49s 3d 46s 1d	49s 3d 46s 1d

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, May 12.—There has been very little doing in spelter, at 22½s per ton on the spot. Zinc is dull, at 27½s to 28s. We have a fair demand for tin, at 110s to 111s for Banca, and 105s to 110s for Straits. Tin plates command full quotations. Lead is in request, at 21½ to 22s for Spanish pig, and 22½ to 23s for British pig. Scotch pig iron realised 61s to 61s 6d. Other kinds of iron, including copper, are quite as dear as last week.

WOOL, CRY, Monday.—The public sales have been well attended since our last report, and the whole of the parcels offered have sold at very full prices. The following rates have been paid: Port Phillip—Clean sheep's, 1s 3d to 2s 3d; lamb's, 1s 7d to 2s 1d; pieces, 9d to 1s 9d; grease, 7½d to 1s 3d. Sydney—Clean sheep's, 1s 3d to 2s 1d; lamb's, 1s 5d to 1s 9d; locks, 7½d to 1s 5d; skin, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; grease, 9d to 1s 1d. Van Dieman's Land—Clean sheep's, 1s 5d to 1s 9d; lamb's, 1s 5d to 1s 1d; skin, 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Cape—Clean sheep's, 1s 5d to 1s 1d; lamb's, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; grease, 7d to 1s 6d. Buenos Ayres—Sheep's, 7½d to 1s 1d; lamb's, 1s 2d to 1s 1d. East India—Sheep's, 1d to 1s. Mogadore—Sheep's, 4½d to 10d. Russian—Sheep's, 6½d to 10d. Turkey—Sheep's, 4½d to 8½d. Australian—Clean sheep's, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; grease, 1½d to 1s; pieces, 10d to 1s; lamb's, 1s 1d to 2s 2d; grease, 9d to 1s 3d; grease, 7½d to 1½d per lb. Privately, English wools are in moderate request, and quite as dear as last week. The imports have been large, viz.: 600 bales from Algiers Bay, 31 from Antwerp, 29 from Ghent, 3,833 from Adelaide, 30 from Buenos Ayres, 400 from Bombay, 1,100 from Lancaster, 500 from Hobart Town, 114 from Odessa, 100 from Trieste, and 300 from various other quarters.

CURRENT PRICES OF ENGLISH WOOL.

	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Down tags	1 0 to 1 1½	1 0 to 1 1½
Down wools	0 11 to 1 0	0 11 to 1 0
Half-bred hogs	0 11½ to 1 0½	0 11½ to 1 0½
Half-bred wethers	0 11 to 1 0	0 11 to 1 0
Kent fleeces	1 0 to 1 1	1 0 to 1 1
Leicester fleeces mixed	0 11 to 1 0½	0 11 to 1 0½
Combing skins	6 11 to 1 0½	6 11 to 1 0½
Flannel wool	1 0 to 1 1½	1 0 to 1 1½
Blanket wool	0 6 to 0 11	0 6 to 0 11

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, April 14.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	0 3½ to 0 0	pr lb.
Ditto 64 72 lbs.	0 3½ to 0 3½	"
Ditto 72 80 lbs.	0 3½ to 0 3½	"
Ditto 80 88 lbs.	0 3½ to 0 4	"
Ditto 88 96 lbs.	0 4 to 0 4½	"
Ditto 96 104 lbs.	0 4 to 0 4½	"
Horse Hides	5 6 to 0 0	each
Calf Skins, light	2 8 to 3 8	"
Ditto full	6 0 to 0 0	"
Polled Sheep	0 0 to 0 0	"
Kents and Half Breeds	6 0 to 7 0	"
Downs	4 9 to 5 9	"
Lambs	2 3 to 3 0	"
Shearlings	0 10 to 0 0	"

COALS, Monday.—A general sale, and an advance on all coals. Stewart's, 19s 6d; Hatton's, 19s 6d; S. Hartlepool, 19s; S. Kellie, 17s 9d; Hough Hall, 17s 9d; Tanfield, 16s; Wylam, 15s 6d; Harton, 17s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 63; left from market, 14; total, 77.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—There has been very little business transacted in flax, and the quotations have shown a tendency to give way. The market for hemp has become heavy, on lower terms. Petersburg clean has sold at 49½ to 50½ per ton. Jute is held for an advance of 15s per ton. Coir goods are a slow sale.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, May 15.—The market closed with an upward tendency, and prices of American are nearly 1d per lb dearer; and Surats under 4d per lb a like advance. All other kinds are at the full rates of last week. The sales to-day are at 12,000 bales (6,000 for export, and on speculation); 300 Perham and Maranham, 6½d to 7½d; 800 Egyptian, 6½d to 6½d; and 1,000 Surat, 3½d to 4½d per lb. Imports since Thursday, 35,000 bales.

Advertisements.

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THOMAS BOURNE, Resident and Managing Secretary.

THE ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY.

25, CANNON-STREET, LONDON; 11, DUCIE PLACE (opposite Exchange), MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL, 100,000L., with power to increase to One Million.

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JENKIN JONES, Esq.

SECRETARY FOR MANCHESTER.

JOHN KINGSLEY, Esq.

The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium, which are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and the terms of its Loan business. It offers to the Assured the security of a large subscribed Capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per Cent. of the Profits being divided amongst the Policy-holders every five years.

Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premium required for any contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at the Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, London.

HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

ALL PERSONS INSURING DURING THIS YEAR WILL SHARE IN THE NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

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LONDON and WESTMINSTER BANK.

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SEAVYOR—THOMAS TURNER, Esq., 24, Bucklersbury.

SUBORON—JOHN MANN, Esq., 4, Charter-house-square.

SECRETARY.—JAMES INGLIS, Esq.

The Proposals for Life Assurance received during the year 1854 amounted to 1,034 for 243,968L.; out of which 876 Policies have been issued, assuring 193,759L.; 13s. for 48,209L. being in progress, or declined.

The number of policies now in force is 5,069, assuring 988,036L.

The present Annual Income is 35,568L. 18s. 1d.

The Company has an Accumulated Fund of 70,000L.

The period having arrived for the Second Division of Profits to the Assured, a complete and detailed valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Company has been made by the Actuary, F. G. F. Neilson, Esq., by which it appeared that of the realised profits during the three years that have elapsed since the first division, there is a disposable balance of 20,000L.; and, after deducting ten per cent. for the purposes of the Reserved Fund, there remains 18,000L. to appropriate as bonus to the members, which will be found to be in the ratio of about twenty-seven and a-half per cent. of the amount of premiums paid by them.

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

FIRE COMPANY.—Subscribed Guarantee Fund, 200,000L.—Pure Mutuality—Policy-holders Not Liable for Losses—ENTIRE PROFITS Divided Triennially—Policies issued, 13,438, for 6,019,148L. Twelve and a Half per Cent. per Annum has been returned at each Triennial Division on the entire Premiums paid.

FRANCIS CLOWES, Secretary.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

16,221L. 5s. have already been paid as compensation for Fatal and other Railway Accidents, by the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

EXAMPLES.

1,000L. was paid to the Widow of J. G., killed on the 24th February 1852, secured by a payment of 1L.

350L. was paid to H. C. H. J., who had his leg broken on the 31st Aug., 1853, secured by a payment of 1L.

200L. was paid to W. P., severely injured on the 19th September, 1854, secured by a payment of 1L.

For the convenience of frequent travellers, Periodical Insurances are granted, which now cover the risk of Fatal Accidents while travelling in any class carriage on any Railway in the United Kingdom or on the Continent of Europe, and insure Compensation for Personal Injury in any Railway Accident in the United Kingdom only.

To insure 1,000L. at an Annual Premium of 20s.

Ditto 200L. ditto 5s.

Insurances can also be effected securing the same advantages for terms of five or ten years, or for the whole of life, at greatly reduced rates, which may be learned from the Company's Prospectus, to be had at the Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations.

A new class of Insurance has also been established in case of Death by Railway accident alone, without compensation for Injury.

To insure 1,000L. at an Annual Premium of 5s.

Ditto any sum not exceeding 1,000L. for the whole of life by a single payment of 6s. per cent.: thus one payment of 3L. will secure 1,000L.

The Premiums charged include the Stamp Duty, this being the only Company insuring against Railway Accidents empowered by Special Act of Parliament to pay a commuted Stamp Duty.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Office, WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

3, Old Broad-street, London.

LIFE ASSURANCE.

UNITED KINGDOM TEMPERANCE and GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

1, ADELAIDE-PLACE, LONDON-BRIDGE, LONDON.

Established, 1840, for the Mutual Assurance of Lives, Endowments, Annuities, etc.

ACCUMULATED CAPITAL, £125,000.

Since the commencement of this Institution it has issued Ten Thousand Policies. In the year 1852, it issued 1,177; in the year 1853, 1,316; and in 1854, 1,331.

This is the only Life Assurance Office in which abstainers from Distilled and Fermented Liquors can secure the full benefit of their Temperance.

The Temperance and Public Sections are kept in separate classes, and will each receive their own profits.

Policies are indisputable, except for palpable fraud.

Entire profits belong to the Assured.

Edinburgh Office, 17, George-street; Manchester, 41, John Dalton-street; Liverpool, 48, Castle-street; Glasgow, 106, Hope-street.

Prospectuses, &c., may be obtained at the Branch Office, or of any of the agents.

N.B.—Members are hereby informed, that the next Annual Meeting will be held on the 21st May, at Two o'clock, at the Adelaide Hotel, London-bridge.

WILLIAM RICHARD BAKER, Resident Director.

8,937 SHARES ISSUED.

AMOUNT ADVANCED ON MORTGAGE, 94,786L. 7s. 4d.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND, and BUILDING SOCIETY.

22, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

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SECRETARY.—MR. JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER.

NATURE AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The Perpetual Investment, Land, and Building Society, was established in May, 1851, under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 6 and 7 William IV., c. xxxii.

The objects of the Society are, to enable the Public—

1. To INVEST THEIR SAVINGS Securely and Profitably.

2. To BORROW MONEY.—

For the Purchase of Land, Dwelling-houses, Trade Premises, and Ground-rents.

For the Improvement of Dwelling-houses, or other Buildings, by Repairs, Alterations, or Enlargements; or for

The Erection of Dwelling-houses, Trade Premises, and Public Buildings.

3. To OBTAIN ALLOTMENTS OF FREEHOLD LAND.

INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT.

INVESTORS are those who use the Society as investment for their savings; on which they will, on the completion of their shares, receive interest at the rate of 5 per cent., together with a proportion of the Society's profits.

An Investor may at any time withdraw the money which he has paid on his share, with interest thereon; the interest now receivable upon withdrawal is 5 per cent. compound, or a Person may dispose of his share with the accumulations of interest and profit, a fee of 1s. per share being paid on the transfer. Should sickness, want of employment, or other pecuniary emergency arise, an Investor can, upon the security of his shares, borrow a sum not exceeding the amount paid by him to the Society, interest being charged at the rate of 7d. per month for 25, which includes all expenses.

SHARES.—There are five descriptions of shares, namely:—£10 shares; £25 shares; £30 shares; £40 shares; and £100 shares.

A 10L. share may be paid by instalments in the same manner as deposits in Savings Banks; the entrance fee is 6d. each share.

A 25L. share requires the payment of 5s. per month for 7½ years, together with an entrance fee of 1s.

A 30L. share requires the payment of 4s. per month for 10 years, together with an entrance fee of 1s.

A 40L. share requires the payment of 5s. per month for 12½ years, or of 10s. per month for 7½, together with an entrance fee of 1s. 6d.

A 100L. share requires the payment of 10s. per month for 12½ years, or of 11s. per month for 7½, together with an entrance fee of 2s. 6d.

The payments on the shares may be made quarterly, half-yearly, or yearly, in advance, as well as monthly; or any number of payments may be made at once. In one sum, a discount at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum being allowed upon all prepayments of six months or more. Table I. at page 4 of the Prospectus shows the amount to be paid in such cases.

Any of these shares may be paid up in full, and thus become Realised Shares, or they may be paid by irregular instalments, in which case the money will bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

The interest upon Realised Shares is 5½ per cent. per annum, which includes the profits belonging to such shares, and is paid half-yearly, on the 30th April and the 30th October.

EXAMPLES OF INVESTORS.

A. B. enters for one 100L. share, on which he pays an entrance fee of 2s. 6d., and 10s. per month (or 4d. per day) for 12½ years 10s. per month, paid for 12½ years, will amount to 75L. To this sum will be added £25 for interest at 5 per cent., so that A. B. will receive, at the end of the 12½ years, 100L., and his proportion of the profits.

C. D., who has entered for 100L. share, finds it convenient, after paying 50 monthly payments of 10s. per month on his share, to withdraw his money (which an investor may do at any time). He will have paid during that time, 25L., and will receive, on withdrawing, at the present rate of interest, 27L. 15s. 2d., being the principal money paid and interest thereon at 5 per cent. compound.

E. F. has a sum of money by him which he wishes to invest. He therefore enters for one or more shares, and instead of making monthly payments on the shares, he prepays a certain number of years, according as he may find it convenient. Reference to the Prospectus, Table I., will show that 50L. share, will prepay all the payments required on a 100L. share, to be realised in 12½ years.

G. H., wishing to have 100L. to apprentice his son, or for some other purpose, has to pay 20s. per month for seven years.

J. K., not being able to spare so much as 10s. per month, enters for a 50L. share, to be realised in 12½ years, on which he pays an entrance fee of 1s. 6d., and the sum of 5s. monthly, or 2d. per day.

L. M. enters for a 30L. share, on which he pays an entrance fee of 1s., and 4s. per month for 10 years or rather more than 14d. per day.

N. O. enters for 10 realised shares of 10L. each, and having paid 100L. for subscriptions and entrance fees, he receives interest thereon half-yearly at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum.

R. S., desirous of securing to his daughter, now aged 14, the first instalment, with the entrance fee of 6d.; in three weeks he pays a second 5s.; in two weeks more he pays 7s., and continues making his payments until the whole 10L. is paid, when he will receive interest at 4 per cent. for all his back payments, and commence receiving interest at 5½ per cent. per annum.

P. Q. enters for one 10L. share, and pays 5s. thereon as his sum of 50L. on her attaining the age of 21, has to pay 10s. per month, or 5L. 18s. per annum for 7 years.

T. U., an executor, has 2,000L. to invest, and he takes 20 £100 realised shares, upon which he receives interest amounting to 110L. per annum, being more than he would receive were the amount invested on mortgage, and in many cases equal to the amount that would be obtained by the purchase of an annuity, in which case the whole of the capital would be sunk, while, by investing with this Society, the 2,000L. can at any time be withdrawn at a month's notice.

DEPOSIT OR SAVINGS' BANK DEPARTMENT.

DEPOSITORS.—Persons may deposit sums of 1s. and upwards on which interest will be paid half-yearly, at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. No interest is paid until 1L. has been deposited.

Deposits of large amount received daily, at from 4 to 5 per cent. interest.

Interest not claimed prior to the 1st day of June, and the 1st day of December, in each year, will be added to the principal, and interest paid thereon.

Depositors may withdraw their money at any time, on giving the proper notice; when the amount does not exceed 50L., one week's notice; from 50L. to 200L., one month's notice; from 200L. to 500L., two months' notice; exceeding 500L., three months' notice.

All Deposits are invested by way of Mortgage upon Freehold, Copyhold, or Leasehold Property, which enables the Society to pay a much larger rate of interest than the Savings' Banks.

LOAN DEPARTMENT.

Borrowers are those persons to whom money is lent on the security of land or house property.

A person may become a borrower at any time, obtaining without delay an advance of whatever sum he may require within the value of the security which he has to offer.

Money lent may be repaid by monthly or other instalments, spread over any number of years not exceeding 15.

Table No. III. (Prospectus) shows the amount a borrower of 100L., or 500L., or 1,000L. will have to repay per month during the period within which he may have agreed to repay the loan. It will be seen that if the loan of 100L. is to be repaid within five years, the sum to be repaid monthly is 2L. 2s. 4d., and that if it is to be repaid within 15 years, the sum to be repaid monthly is 19s. 9d.

The charges of the Society's Solicitors for preparing the Mortgage are defrayed by the Society, and included in the repayments as specified in the Advance Table.

A loan may be repaid within a shorter period than that originally stipulated; or if, after a time, the monthly repayments originally fixed are burdensome, the period within which the loan should be paid off may be extended, and the monthly repayments consequently reduced.

Property may be redeemed on equitable terms; or prepayments may be made for any number of years, in which case a discount of 4 per cent. will be allowed.

No re-conveyance is required in the redemption of property mortgaged to the Society.

Where it may be desirable that a person before treating for the purchase of any property should know what sum would be lent to him on the security of such property, the Board will direct their Surveyor (on the fee of One Guinea being paid), to ascertain its value, and on receiving his report, state the amount.

In the case of a Sale by Auction the Board will, if the security be sufficient, make a preliminary advance to pay the deposit money on the purchase.

A person at the time of effecting a mortgage may, by a small additional periodical payment, secure the immediate conveyance of his property to his executors in the event of his decease—thus combining the benefits of Life Assurance with the other advantages of the Society.

EXAMPLES OF BORROWERS.

V. W. has a Leasehold Interest in Premises bringing in 50L. per year, for 15 years. The reversion to the Freehold is to be sold for 400L. He borrows the money of this Society, to be repaid within 15 years by 3L. 17s. 5d. per month, or 46L. 9s. per annum, and at the end of that time is possessed of a Freehold worth 50L. per annum, free of all debt.

X. Y. takes ten 100L. Shares, and pays on them 5L. per month for three years and two months; he has then paid 190L. into the Society; he finds that the house he lives in, for which he is paying 36L. per year rent, is to be sold for 500L. He takes out the money which he has invested in the Society, amounting, with interest, to 202L. 13s. 4d., and borrows of the Society 300L. more, making together the whole purchase-money. The loan of 300L. he repays within 15 years, by instalments of 2L. 18s. 1d. per month, or rather less than 25L. per year. During this period he has no rent to pay, as he is his own landlord. At the end of the 15 years, he is in possession of a Freehold House which has in reality cost him only 179L. 18s.

Z. having mortgaged his house for 500L., is called upon to discharge the same. He therefore borrows the amount from this Society, to be repaid within 15 years by instalments of 4L. 16s. 5d. per month. At the end of that period he has the satisfaction of finding his property free from incumbrance. Or he may, in order to effect the object, borrow the 500L., to be repaid within 10 years by instalments of 6L. 2s. 11d. per month; but, after paying 6L. 2s. 11d. per month for 5 years, he finds himself unable to continue to pay so large an amount, and obtains an extension of the remainder of the period from 5 to 10 years, and consequently a reduction of the monthly payments from 6L. 2s. 11d. to 3L. 12s. 2d. per month. See Table IV., Prospectus. Or, if at the end of the first 5 years, he should have a sum of money left him, and wishes to redeem his property by one payment, he can do so by paying 304L. 12s. 5d., which includes principal and interest, together with legal expenses.

FREEHOLD LAND DEPARTMENT.

Although the 30L. Shares referred to may be used for the purposes of investment only, the chief object in creating shares of that amount was to enable any person, by the small payment of 4s. per month, to become the owner of such a quantity of freehold land as will confer on him the right to vote for Members of Parliament, in the county in which the land is situated.

The Society purchases freehold land in large estates, and, consequently, at an immensely lower rate than a small plot of the same land could be obtained. This land is allotted among the members in the "Freehold Land Department," and any person who enters for a 30L. share, and pays 4s. per month for 10 years, may obtain a piece of land of sufficient extent for the site of a Dwelling-house, with a garden attached to it; the property conferring on him, moreover, a Parliamentary vote for the county. In this way a person who has an allotment is able to secure all the advantages in regard to price, drainage, road-making, and general improvements, hitherto exclusively enjoyed by large purchasers.

IMPORTANT TO EMIGRANTS AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY.

PLUMBE'S SOUTH SEA ARROW-ROOT.

The genuine and superior quality of this article have long established it in public estimation. It is greatly preferred by the most eminent Physicians in London for Invalids, and as the best food for infants. It also forms a light, nutritious diet for general use, and is most valuable in all cases of Diarrhoea. It is strongly recommended for Cholera; acting as a preventive, it should be used freely during the epidemic.

Directions accompany each packet, which bears the signature of A. S. Plumbo, 3, Alls-place, Great Alls-street, Whitechapel. Agents appointed in all parts of Town and Country. Retailers in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, 11, Barnsbury-place; Illington; Ellis and Lloyd, 73, Newgate-street; Messrs, Sloane-street; Williams, Moorgate-street; Mades, Camberwell; Poulton, Hackney; and others.

ROPER'S ROYAL BATH PLASTERS,

For Coughs, Asthma, Hoarseness, Indigestion, Palpitation of the Heart, Croup, Hooping Cough, Influenza, Chronic Strains, Bruises, Lumbago or Pains in the Back, Spinal and Rheumatic Affections, Diseases of the Chest, and Local Pains.

Dear Sirs,—Having suffered many years from severe attacks of rheumatic pains, I feel great pleasure in telling you that I have derived great benefit from your invaluable Plaster. I shall most certainly recommend it to all my friends, all medical aid being of no use whatever. You are at leave to publish this in any way you may think proper.—I am, dear Sirs, yours truly, Leamington, Aug. 12th, 1854. R. MAYOR, M.A.

Hooping-Cough Cured.

Sirs, I have used your Roper's Plasters for myself and children for several months with decided benefit for hooping-cough; three of my children being comparatively well since their application.—I am, Sirs, yours respectfully, T. MARSH. Ash Cottage, Stablesfield, near Raversham, Kent.

Haydon Vicarage, Stamford, April 27th, 1854. Sirs,—The effects of Roper's Plasters I had some short time since from you has been so marvellous among my poor parishioners that I will thank you to send me an tin case as soon as convenient.—Your obedient servant, A. LEAPSWELL.

Unprincipled shopkeepers, for the sake of gain, have vended spurious imitations. Purchasers are therefore cautioned to NOTICE!—The words "Roper's Royal Bath Plaster," engraved on the Government stamp.

PREPARED ONLY BY ROBERT ROPER AND SON, CHEMISTS, SHEFFIELD.

Full-sized plasters, 1s. 1d.; and for children, 9d. each; or direct by post, on receipt of 1s. 4d., or 1s. each in postage stamps. For family use, and charitable purposes, &c.—in tin cases, at 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., 33s., each case.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!—Be particular to ask for ROPER'S PLASTERS.

ELEGANT PERSONAL REQUISITES.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ROYALTY AND THE ARISTOCRACY THROUGHOUT EUROPE.

And universally preferred and esteemed.

The successful results of the last half-century have proved beyond question that

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL possesses

peculiarly nourishing powers in the growth, restoration, and improvement of the human hair. It prevents it from falling off or turning grey—strengthens weak hair—cleanses it from sebum and dandruff—and makes it beautifully soft, curly, and glossy. It is the growth of the Beard, Whiskers, and Mustaches, it is unfailing in its stimulative operation. For children it is especially recommended, as forming the basis of a beautiful head of hair. Price 3s. 6d., 7s. Family bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s.

ROWLANDS' KALYDOR; an Oriental

Botanical Preparation for Improving and Beautifying the Complexion; Eradicates Cutaneous Defects and Discolorations, and renders the Skin Soft, Fair, and Blooming. It obviates all the effects of Climate on the Skin, whether with reference to cold and inclemency, or intense solar heat. Gentlemen after shaving will appreciate its softening and ameliorating properties. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle.

SOUND AND WHITE TEETH

Are not only indispensably requisite to a pleasing exterior in both sexes, but they are peculiarly appreciated through life as highly conducive to the purposes of health and longevity. Among the various preparations offered for the purpose,

ROWLANDS' ODONTO; or, Pearl Denti-

frice, stands unrivalled. Prepared from Oriental Herbs with unusual care, transmitted to this country at great expense, this unique compound will be found of inestimable value in Preserving and Beautifying the Teeth, Strengthening the Gums, and in rendering the Breath sweet and pure. Price 2s. 3d. per box.

Sold by A. ROWLAND and SONS, 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

* Beware of Spurious Imitations.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!

ALL Sufferers from this Complaint are earnestly invited to consult or write to Dr. HERBERT LESLIE, as he guarantees them relief in every case. His celebrated remedy was perfectly successful in curing 1,318 cases in 1853, and is applicable to every variety of single and double rupture, however bad or long standing, in male or female of any age, causing no confinement or inconvenience in its application whatever. Persons in the country can have the remedy sent to them post free (packed secure from observation), with full instructions for its use, by forwarding 7s. 6d. in postage-stamps, or by Post-office order, payable at the General Post-office, to Herbert Leslie, M.D., 37A, Manchester-street, Gray's Inn-road, London. Consultations daily (Sunday excepted), from Eleven to Three o'clock.

GRATIS.—A copy of the Fiftieth Edition of Dr. Leslie's Pamphlet of Testimonials, with a report of the cures effected last year will be sent gratuitously to any one, on receipt of one penny postage-stamp to prepay it.

The following Testimonials are given verbatim, with the full permission of their writers:—

From T. O.—"Your remedy has had a very excellent effect on the rupture; it has kept up several weeks now." From R. H.—"I beg to acquaint you that your remedy has perfectly cured me." From J. F.—"My boy had suffered from rupture to a great extent, and we used your remedy with complete success." From C. H.—"I am quite cured; and my friends think it a miracle, as I had worn a belt for thirty years." From J. W.—"Your remedy has quite cured my mother, and she breathes better than she has done for years."

DEAFNESS, NOISES IN THE HEAD, EARS, &c.

Dr. LESLIE'S REMEDY permanently restores Hearing in Infants or Adults, whether deficient from cold, illness, or any accidental causes, and has been successful in numerous cases where the most eminent of the profession have failed in giving relief. It removes all those distressing noises in the head and ears, and earache, arising from nervousness, deafness, &c., and by its occasional use will preserve the important faculty of hearing to the latest period of life. In every case a perfect cure is guaranteed. The remedy will be sent post free to any part of the world, on receipt of 7s. in postage-stamps, or Post-office order, payable at the General Post-office, to Herbert Leslie, M.D., 37A, Manchester-street, Gray's Inn-road, London.

RUPTURES—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st, Facility of application; 2nd, Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd, It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th, It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation, and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in this recommending."—*Church and State Gazette*.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Gray's Hospital; W. Condon, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Bizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Linton, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage, 1s. 6d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEECAPS, &c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

Manufacture, 228, Piccadilly, London.

NERVOUS Mind and Head Sufferers, from

No. 1000. Noblemen to Mechanics, having tried all advertised and other remedies without a cure, have, during eighteen years, been obliged to apply to the

Rev. Dr. WILLIS MOSELEY, 18, BLOOMSBURY-STREET, BEDFORD-SQUARE, London.

and Fifty are not known to be uncured. Means of cure only to be paid for, and a relapse prevented for life. Novel observations—a pamphlet on Nervousness, franked to any address if one stamp is sent; or, for thirty-six, Twelve Chapters on the only means of Curing Nervous or Mind Complaints.—"The best book on nervousness in our language."—*Professor Savage, Surgeon*.

OLD JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SASSAPARILLA.

This is one of the most extraordinary and valuable Medicines in the world. Its superiority over other preparations of like character, made in this country, arises from the mode of manufacture, and the advantage of obtaining and working the root in its green and fresh state. The root, when brought to this country, is dry, rapid, and almost tasteless. Its virtues and juices having all evaporated: while it often becomes mouldy, musty, and partially decayed, so that it is quite unfit for use.

ENGLISH TESTIMONY.

We give a few of the many communications we have received since we have been in England, from those who have experienced the great benefits of using this celebrated Medicine. They must have some weight in convincing the public of its great value:—

40, DAVENANT-STREET, BUCKLEBY-SQUARE, Sept. 1, 1855. Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in testifying to the numerous thanks I have received from various persons who have taken Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, many of whom will be happy to give you testimonials should you require them. I am doubly pleased to be able to speak to the good effects I have seen myself produced by the Sarsaparilla, for I must confess that, although I was not prejudicial, I was rather sceptical as to its virtues, which I would not have believed it possessed had I not seen it.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, JOHN JAINESON.

FURTHER IMPORTANT TESTIMONY.

GENTLEMEN,—I was afflicted with the blind Piles, and was under medical treatment for three months, but obtained no relief. Hearing of Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, I obtained some, and, after taking it a short time, the accumulated corrupt matter copiously discharged, and I almost immediately obtained relief. I still continued its use for a time, and not only found relief but a cure, and am now free from pain. I most sincerely recommend it to all who are similarly affected.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, WM. HYDE.

FEMALE COMPLAINTS.

GENTLEMEN,—My wife has been long afflicted with a nervous complaint, from which she suffered severely. Able physicians and many remedies were tried in vain, but I am happy to inform you that she has entirely recovered by using a few bottles of Old Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla. J. R. PETERSON.

PIMPLES, BLOTCHES, ERUPTIONS, &c. The same may be said of these as in the cure of the severe chronic maladies, the Sarsaparilla and the Ointment will effectually wipe off all disagreeable eruptions, and render the surface clear and beautiful. Ladies troubled with rough, pimply skin, or a gross, masculine surface, will do well to use these Medicines if they wish clear, delicate, and transparent complexions. Nothing can exceed their efficacy in this respect.

CURE OF A DISORDERED STOMACH.

Lower Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, July 31, 1851. Gentlemen,—I beg to inform you that I have been using your Medicine, Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla, for a complaint in my stomach, from which I suffered a long time, and I am happy to say it has cured me. I shall be happy to answer any letter of inquiry, as I am satisfied your Sarsaparilla is worthy of all the recommendation it can give it. JAMES FORSYTH.

SICK HEADACHE—A CASE OF MANY YEARS' STANDING. The following is one of those cases arising from a disordered state of the uterine functions, which affect the whole system, and bring on some of the most distressing sufferings. This lady has suffered more or less for ten years, and is now entirely recovered by the use of Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla. She says:—

Berkley-square, Jan. 15, 1855. Messrs. Pomeroy and Co.—I have used your Dr. Townsend's Sarsaparilla for sick headache and general debility, arising from a disordered state of my system, and am happy to inform you that it has completely restored me to former health and strength. I experience a degree of comfort, buoyancy of spirits, and renewed strength, which I have not known for ten years. This great benefit alone induces me to write you an acknowledgment. Dedicating my name in full to go before the public, I give my initials only. Mrs. E. W. T. C.

Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s.; Quarts, 7s. 6d.; and Marmoset 11s. Six Marmosets sent free for 60s.

POMEROY, ANDREWS, and Co., SOLE PROPRIETORS.

Warehouse, 375, Strand, London.

NO MORE PILLS NOR ANY OTHER MEDICINE.

FOR INDIGESTION (DYSPEPSIA), CONSTIPATION, NERVOUS, BILIOUS, AND LIVER COMPLAINTS, COUGHS, CONSUMPTION, AND DEBILITY.

DU BARRY'S delicious REVALENTA

ARABICA FOOD cures indigestion (dyspepsia), constipation, and diarrhoea, dysentery, nervousness, biliousness, and liver complaints, flatulency, distension, acidity, heartburn, palpitation of the heart, nervous headache, deafness, noises in the head and ears, pains in almost every part of the body, rheumatism, face ache, chronic inflammation, cancer, and ulceration of the stomach, irritation of the kidneys and bladder, gravel, stones, erysipelas, eruptions of the skin, both acute and chronic, impurities and poverty of the blood, scrofula, cough, asthma, consumption, dropsy, rheumatism, gout, nausea and sickness during pregnancy, after eating or at sea, low spirits, dyspepsia, cramps, epileptic fits, apoplexy, general debility, inquietude, sleeplessness, involuntary blushing, paralysis, tremors, dislike to society, apathy for study, loss of memory, delusions, vertigo, blood to the head, exhaustion, melancholy, groundless fear, indecision, weakness, thoughts of self-destruction, and many other complaints. It is, moreover, the best food for infants and invalids generally, as it never turns acid on the weakest stomach, nor interferes with a good liberal diet, but imparts a healthy relish for lunch and dinner, and restores the faculty of digestion, and nervous and muscular energy to the most enfeebled. In whooping cough, measles, small pox, and chicken or wind pox, it renders all medicine superfluous by removing all inflammatory and feverish symptoms.

IMPORTANT CAUTION against the fearful dangers of spurious imitations:—

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir William Page Wood, granted an Injunction on the 10th March, 1854, against Alfred Hooper Nevill, or imitating "Dr. Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food."

BARRY DU BARRY and CO., 77, REGENT-STREET, London.

A few out of 80,000 cures are here given:—

Cure No. 71, of dyspepsia, from the Right Hon. the Lord Stuart de Decies:—"I have derived considerable benefit from Dr. Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food, and consider it due to yourselves and the public to authorize the publication of these lines."

Cure No. 45,823:—"Fifty years' insupportable agony from dyspepsia, nervousness, asthma, cough, constipation, flatulency, spasms, sickness of the stomach and vomiting, have been removed by Dr. Barry's excellent food."—MRS. J. J. WORTHING, Ling, near Din, Norfolk.

Cure No. 47,121:—"Miss Elizabeth Jacobs, of Hasting Vicarage, Waltham-cress, Herts—a cure of extreme nervousness, indigestion, gatherings, low spirits, and nervous tancies."

Cure No. 48,314:—"Miss Elizabeth Yeoman, Gateacre near Liverpool—a cure of ten years' dyspepsia and all the horrors of nervous irritability."

Cure No. 3,906:—"Thirteen years' cough, indigestion, and general debility have been removed by Dr. Barry's excellent Revalenta Arabica Food."—JAMES POSTER, Athol-street, Perth.

Cure No. 53,423:—"I have suffered these thirty-three years continually from diseased lungs, spitting of blood, liver derangement, deafness, ringing in the ears, constipation, debility, shortness of breath and cough, and, during that period, taken some medicine, that I can safely say I have laid out upwards of a thousand pounds at the chemists and doctors.—I have actually worn out two medical men during my ailments without finding any improvement in my health. Indeed, I was in utter despair, and never expected to get over it, when I was fortunate enough to become acquainted with your Revalenta Arabica, which, Heaven be praised, restored me to a state of health which I long since despaired of attaining. My lungs, liver, stomach, head, and ears, are all right, my hearing perfect, and my recovery is a marvel to all my acquaintances.—I am, respectfully, JAMES BOWEN, Bridgehouse, Primley, April 1st, 1854."

Cure No. 48,615:—"For the last ten years I have been suffering from dyspepsia, headache, nervousness, low spirits, sleeplessness, and delusions, and swallowed an incredible amount of medicine without relief. I am happy to say that your Food has cured me, and I am now enjoying better health than I have had for many years past."—J. A. NEWSON, Plymouth, May 15, 1851.

Cure No. 186:—"Twenty-five years' nervousness, constipation, indigestion, and debility, from which I have suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by Dr. Barry's Food in a short time."—W. B. REEVES, Pool Anthony, Tiverton.

No. 4,908:—"Eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility with cramps, spasms, and nausea have been thoroughly removed by Dr. Barry's health-restoring Food. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries."—Rev. JOHN W. FLAVELL, Riddington Rectory, Norfolk.

No. 61:—"Twenty years' liver complaint, with disorders of the stomach, bowels, and nerves."—ALFRED FLEMING, Huddersfield.

Cure No. 48,504:—"I am happy to say I have found your incomparable Food an infallible preventive of the gout. I can now eat most things with impunity, and take my pint of port wine, if necessary, the same as other people. I do not like my name published, but do not object to your referring fellow-sufferers to me."—H. W. GRANTHAM, Feb. 3, 1851.

No. 42,120: Major-General King, cure of general debility and nervousness. No. 25,110: Captain Parker D. Mingham, M.N., who was cured of twenty-seven years' dyspepsia in six weeks' time. Cure No. 25,416: William Hunt, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, six years' partial paralysis. No. 23,814: Captain Allen, recording the cure of a lady from epileptic fits. No. 25,419: The Rev. Charles Kerr, a cure of functional disorders. No. 24,814: The Rev. Thomas Minster, cure of five years' nervousness, with spasms and daily vomitings. No. 41,617: Dr. James Shortland, late Surgeon in the 90th Regiment, a cure of dropsy. No. 24,847: Mr. Thomas Woodhouse recording the cure of a lady from constipation and sickness during pregnancy. No. 27,425: Samuel Laxton, Esq., a cure of two years' diarrhoea.

Mr. William Martin, a cure of eight years' daily vomiting.

Richard Willoughby, Esq., a cure of many years' biliousness.

No. 23,235:—"Three years' excessive nervousness, with pains in my neck and left arm, and general debility, which rendered my life very miserable, has been radically removed by Dr. Barry's health-restoring Food."—ALEX. STUART, Archdeacon of Ross, Shilbourn.

No. 50,084:—"Gentlemen,—We have found it admirably adapted for infants. Our baby has never once had disordered bowels since taking it."—R. ANGLADE, Grammar School, Stevenage, Dec. 16, 1850.

No. 92,418: Dr. Gries, Magdeburg, recording the cure of his wife from pulmonary consumption, with night sweats and ulcerated lungs, which had resisted all medicines, and appeared a hopeless case. No. 57,427: Dr. Gattiker, Zurich, cure of cancer of the stomach and fearfully distressing vomitings, habitual flatulency, and colic. All the above parties will be happy to answer any inquiries.

No. 51,425, Dr. Warner. It is particularly useful in confined habit of body, as also in diarrhoea, bowel complaints, affection of the kidneys and bladder, such as stone or gravel, inflammatory irritation and cramp of the urethra, cramp of the kidneys and bladder, and hemorrhoids. Also in bronchial and pulmonary complaints, where irritation and pain are to be removed, and in pulmonary and bronchial consumption, in which it counteracts effectually the troublesome cough; and I am enabled with perfect truth to express the conviction that Dr. Barry's Revalenta Arabica is adapted to the cure of innumerable hectic complaints and consumption. Dr. Ross, Warran. Council of Medicine and practical M.D. in Bonn. Col. H. Watkins, of Grantham, a cure of gout; Mr. Joseph Walters, Broadwell Colliery, Oldbury, near Birmingham, a cure of angina pectoris; and 80,000 other well-known individuals, who have sent the discoveries and importers, Barry du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London, testimonials of the very extraordinary manner in which their health has been restored by this useful and economical diet, after all other remedies had been tried in vain for many years, and all hopes of recovery abandoned.

In canisters, suitably packed for all climates, and with full instructions—1 lb., 2s. 6d.; 2 lb., 4s. 6d.; 5 lb., 11s.; 12 lb., 22s.; super-refined, 1 lb., 6s.; 2 lb., 11s.; 5 lb., 22s.; 12 lb., 33s. The 10 lb. and 12 lb. carriage free, on post-office order. Barry du Barry, and Co., 77, Regent-street, London, Portman, Mason, and Co., Purveyors to Her Majesty, Piccadilly; also, 60, Gracechurch-street; 330, Strand; and may be ordered through all respectable Booksellers, Grocers, and Chemists.

This day is published, price 10s., to Subscribers, 7s. 6d.,
THE SPIRIT of the BIBLE; or, The
 Nature and Value of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures
 Discriminated. In an Analysis of their several Books. By
 EDWARD HOGGINS.
 VOLUME TWO, containing the Apocrypha and New Testament.
 London: E. T. Whitfield, 178, Strand.

Just published, price 1d., or by post, 2d.,
PROPOSAL FOR UNITED PRAYER.
 An Address by Ministers of the Gospel, and others, of the
 Evangelical Churches of England, Scotland, and Ireland.
 Edinburgh: Thomas Constable and Co. London: Hamilton,
 Adams, and Co.; and all booksellers.

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MISS BREWSTER'S SUNBEAMS in the
 COTTAGE; or, What Women may do; a Narrative
 chiefly addressed to the Working Classes.
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 Adams, and Co.

Just published, large 8vo, price 10s. 6d., Vol. I.,
LETTERS of JOHN CALVIN. Compiled
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